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MEMOIRS

OF THE

LIFE AND RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE

OF

(Fish)

SARAH TUCKER,

A MINISTER OF THE SOCIETY OF FRIENDS.

WRITTEN BY HERSELF.

A meek and quiet spirit, is, in the sight of God of great price.
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PROVIDENCE:
MOORE & CHOATE, PRINTERS.
1848

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MEMOIRS, &c.

I HAVE often thought of committing to writing some account of the exercises which have attended me through this my earthly pilgrimage, but through weakness and the want of a faithful dedication of heart to my Divine Leader, and from an improper view of my situation with the various cares and domestic concerns attending it, I have endeavored to hold myself excused. But of late the subject has revived with a degree of weight, and with such clearness that I am convinced that by thus omitting to do the little required of me, a real loss has been sustained. I have therefore been made willing to pen whatever may arise with life and clearness; yet with no other view than for my own satisfaction, and perhaps the encouragement of my dear children when I am no more.

I was born at Portsmouth, Rhode-Island, the 14th day of the 2d month, 1779, of honest parents, whose names were Preserved and Sarah Fish, both of respectable family but neither of them in religious profession with any denomination at that time. My mind was early, even in my very tender years impressed with a deep sense of good and evil, and of the reality of a future state in which mankind would be rewarded according to their deeds; and

when I thought thereon it often brought great sadness over me lest I should fail of obtaining the reward of the righteous. I greatly desired to be of that number, and sometimes was enabled through the precious influence of divine love, the quickening power of divine grace, to cry unto the Lord for help so to live as that I might in no way offend Him.

The visitations of heavenly kindness to my infant mind are still fresh in my memory — seasons in which the Lord was pleased immediately by the revelation of His dear Son, or the inward appearance of Jesus Christ in my heart to reprove for evil and to bring to judgment transgressing nature. Oh! I remember to have been plunged into great sorrow and sore distress for yielding to the suggestions of the enemy, who would persuade me to think there was no harm in those childish sports and plays to which I was too much inclined, which was my trouble; so that I have sought out secret places where unheard by mortal ear, I poured forth my cries unto my Heavenly Father, begging forgiveness and promising amendment of life. And thus, (after being so reduced and brought down as to think that bread and water would be all I could desire if I might but yet feel a token of His love towards me,) I have at seasons sought and found some ease of mind. Truly the remembrance of the Lord's merciful dealings with me in the days of my childhood are humbling to my mind, when in great kindness He was pleased to open and enlighten my understanding in a manner clear and convincing, giving me to see the deceitfulness of sin, and what a course of vanity it would procure to me if I made choice of the wide gate and the broad way; as also to believe that if I gave up in obedience to the teachings and leadings of this good

Shepherd which I felt to be inwardly near unto me, a reprover for all evil, and a comforter for well doing, the blessing of peace, even that which the world with all its pleasures and foolish gratifications can neither give nor take away, would be bestowed upon me. Oh! it was this that my soul panted after, to be at peace with my God, and for this, my cry was ardent unto my Heavenly Father that He would make me a true child of His. I sometimes desired that He would visit me with sickness, that I might as I then thought, have a better opportunity to acknowledge Him, for truly I loved the Lord and His righteousness, and thought I should be willing to depart this life, if I could but feel a certain evidence of an admittance into His holy kingdom of rest and peace.

About this time I happened to be at the house of a neighbor who was one of the Society of Friends, where I chanced to see a volume of "Piety promoted," which I borrowed and read with great delight. The impressions made on my mind by the reading of this valuable book were indeed lasting, they have been frequently brought to my remembrance, even of later time with deep heartfelt thankfulness; and I have often wished that these excellent volumes were more read than I fear they are, by our young Friends of the present day, as I do believe they were blessed to me in my very young years. I have always esteemed this to be a precious work, calculated to excite to holiness, meekness and love, and may I not say to all good works. I had not before this read much in Friends' books, except John Griffith's Journal, which was the only one owned by my dear father. This journal I read again and again, especially the fore part of it, which was then the better adapted to my understanding; and was greatly strength-

ened in my resolutions and desires after true peace thereby.

I was much concerned at times on account of the prevalency of evil not only in myself, but also in others. I found in me two spirits, each striving for the ascendancy over me, the one good, the other evil; the one if adhered to producing peace, the other anguish and distress of mind, and that when I would do good, evil was present with me. Great indeed were my exercises at this time, so that I went sorrowing on my way, imploring divine aid and protection, promising more care, and to amend my ways—but O how often did I fail of keeping my promise inviolate. Nevertheless, the Lord in his unmerited mercy still followed me with judgment, bringing distress upon me for evil; so that again and again I have sought for mercy and forgiveness from Him whose mercies are new every morning.

It is with feelings of humble, heartfelt thankfulness that I attempt thus to acknowledge and to record the tender mercies and gracious dealings of the Lord to me in my tender years, for I believe I could not have been older than nine or ten when those heavy exercises were so mightily upon me, which lasted for several years, although none knew of them but the Lord alone, for in those days I had none to open my heart unto; and my conceptions of the different religious sects were very childlike and simple. My father always preferred Friends, but my mother inclined to follow the Baptists — so that I sometimes was much troubled to know which of the twain to look to; for I was unwilling to think otherwise than that both were right — however, there was no Baptist meeting settled at that time in the town, neither had I the opportunity of going to Friends meetings much at that age.

When I have taken a retrospective view of the great exercises which I passed through at that early period of my life, it has been the more remarkable to me as no outward circumstance had occurred to excite so great concern, and I fully believe that it was the immediate powerful operation of divine grace in my heart, convincing me of sin and warning of the dreadful consequences thereof. I sometimes feared my transgressions were so great that I should never find forgiveness, and that if I should die I could not have an admittance into the abodes of blessedness and peace. I often retired alone with the bible in which I read much, both in the old and new testament, and was frequently much broken and contrited therewith. The account of the birth, life, sufferings and cruel death of our blessed Lord and Saviour affected me much, so that I have often wept when reading it, feeling much sorrow and regret that I had not lived at that time that I might have been His true disciple and have followed Him even unto death. It grieved me exceedingly that the Jews, God's chosen and peculiar people were so hard-hearted and unbelieving; ah! truly, He came unto his own but they received Him not. But alas! how have I seen in these latter days the prevalency of the spirit of unbelief, which has gone forth and would feign overspread christendom, despising and rejecting the holy life and sufferings of our blessed Redeemer; yea, even that dare to deny and trample under foot the Son of God, counting the blood of the everlasting covenant of life and salvation an unholy thing. Oh, what will the end of all such be!

The reading of the holy scriptures had a good effect on my tender mind. I read with great admiration the account of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Joseph, how wonderfully they were preserved out

of fears, harms, snares and temptations, with many others whose histories are recorded in holy writ; which much strengthened me to trust in the Lord and to persevere in the right way. Oh, my heart's desire and prayer is, that our dear youth may be encouraged and become more and more willing to read those sacred and inspired writings instead of letting out the mind after vain and unprofitable publications, which but tend to vitiate the morals and alienate from the holy cross of Christ; for I can freely and fully testify that they are a precious treasure to store the youthful mind withal, and are indeed able to make wise unto salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

I had committed to memory that most excellent prayer which our Lord taught his disciples, and sometimes when alone I have reverently kneeled down and with contrited feelings repeated it; but I did not then understand how acceptable prayers were to be offered up, nor yet that my heart was often secretly engaged in supplication, imploring divine help and protection. I often felt much concern for my dear brothers and sisters who knew nothing of my inward exercises, (for I had not spoken of them to any one, but my dear father noticed my great attention to reading the bible, and queried if I designed to get it by heart,) and I thought I must warn them of the danger of doing any wrong thing, supposing they did not feel as I then did, or know of that which was so clearly manifested unto me. Feeling one day a great weight on my spirit, I took two of my sisters a little younger than myself and retired into the orchard, where seating ourselves on the grass, (it being warm weather,) I proceeded in the best manner I was capable of, to inform them of what I feared they were ignorant — I told them that we were all born

to die, that our bodies would return to dust, but that our souls would never die, but live forever either in happiness or misery, that if we did no wicked thing we should be happy with God after death, but if we committed wickedness we must be miserable with the wicked one who would forever torment us. They listened with attention ; I expressed my desire that we might be favored to be of the happy number of those who find a place of peace when they go hence. This circumstance is often fresh with me, and I now feel that it may be safe for me to record it.

I often believed that if I lived to woman's estate I should be a preacher of righteousness—I clearly saw when quite young that if I was faithful I must go forth and declare the goodness of the Lord our God unto the people. Yet notwithstanding those merciful visitations, so prone to evil is the human heart, that for a great length of time before I did actually engage in this important work, I quite lost sight of this precious prospect and let out my mind after vanity and youthful indulgences; yet blessed be the Rock of my salvation, He did not forget me, but in great mercy continued His visitations of divine love from time to time upon my mind. I began however to take much delight in young company, in jesting and vain conversation which often produced great sorrow and distress of heart, yet through the tender mercy of a gracious God I was preserved from any thing accounted immoral or base in the sight of men, for which I have often been bowed in reverent thankfulness to Him who alone was my preserver.

I had arrived at my sixteenth year, and was eagerly pursuing my course of vanity, when the Methodists had first came to Rhode-Island and had many meetings — and a great flocking there was to

them, and I among the rest. Their zealous preaching awakened afresh in my mind the sense of my undone condition, without speedy repentance and reconciliation unto God, whom I had so greatly offended. I steadily attended those meetings and truly thought them a favored people — the most so of any I at that time had any knowledge of, and under those impressions and quickened feelings I renewed my covenant with my Maker, promised obedience to His will and solemnly engaged to live a more holy and devoted life. I had serious thoughts of uniting myself to them in religious communion, and was rather urged thereto by some of their members. There appeared nothing that I then knew of in their ways for me to object to, having become so fully reconciled to water baptism as to assent to it, and even assert it to be an ordinance of Christ, and practiced by his disciples, and so of course, consistent; and to those who so believe, essential. I believe, and have no doubt but I should have joined with them had not my dear father interfered. He was one that had been convinced of the efficacy of the inward principle of divine light and grace in the heart in his younger years, but had been unfaithful — howbeit, he was favored in the decline of life, with strength to embrace and openly to make profession of the blessed Truth, and united himself to Friends. He took an opportunity with me and expressed his concern lest I might be mistaken, and being young might be drawn out into the performance of such things as would hereafter bring a burthen upon me—adding, it was a great matter and should be duly considered, that my dependence must be on the arm of divine power, and not on an arm of flesh; — and in short manifested his entire disapprobation; the substance of which he at several times repeated to me. This was a

check to my intentions, and it went hard with me for a time to be opposed in, as I then thought, so good a work. The result however, was that it restrained me from taking one step therein, for although I had a great desire to sit in their class meetings, I never could feel easy to do so against my dear father's will and judgment.

I mention this to show how great is the reach which I believe a well concerned parent's advice may have on their tender offspring; for I do believe it was from a right concern in my dear father; — there was evidently that in it which I could not counteract. I hope those into whose hands this may fall, may faithfully attend to the pointings of divine Truth, and timely remonstrate and plead with their children, when sensible they are about to take an unadvised step, especially in matters of so great consequence. For truly I have had abundant cause to be humbly thankful to the author of all good for this, as well as for many other preservations, having since been favored through the kindness of the everlasting Shepherd of Israel, the glorious arising of the bright and morning star, to see the emptiness of all outward performances and ceremonies, and of placing any dependence on any thing that is but a shadow or type of that which is inward and spiritual, believing that all shadows, types and ceremonies have long since done their office, being ended in Christ Jesus our great Antitype, and were only designed to point us to that which is permanent and of eternal duration; having felt the necessity of submitting to that baptism which is of the Holy Ghost, and operates as a fire in the hearts of the ungodly in order to consume all evil, and to cleanse from all unrighteousness.

This, I believe, is the one saving baptism, even that which John the Baptist, the forerunner of the

Messiah pointed to, when he said, "I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but He that cometh after me is mightier than I whose shoes I am not worthy to bear. He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire, whose fan is in his hand, and He will thoroughly purge his floor and gather his wheat into his garner, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire." And without a surrendering of our hearts unto this baptizing, purifying power of the Holy Ghost, I believe, however great our pretensions to religion may be, we can never know a being redeemed out of our fallen and degenerate state. Ah! how have I felt the fire of the Lord to burn as an oven in my heart against sin and transgression—but blessed be His holy name, the bruised reed He will not break nor quench the smoking flax until he send forth judgment unto victory.

A short time after this I went to Little Compton to live with an aunt, my father's sister, who was a Friend by profession, and I believe a pious woman. And now my religious exercises began to wear off, and youthful company was again my delight, I lost my zeal for God, and my covenant was again broken, which clearly evinced it to have been made too much in my own strength and wisdom. After remaining with my aunt six months I returned to my father's at Portsmouth, and finding no relish for any thing of a religious nature, I gratified my inclination in vanity and levity to a greater degree than I had ever before done; yet through infinite mercy I was still preserved out of base and vile company and conduct, which even at that critical period of my life my very soul utterly abhorred and disdained; but in laughter and lightness, I believe few of my companions exceeded me. Yet, notwithstanding my condition was thus deplorable,

the Lord in his tender mercy did not utterly forsake me, but did often break in upon me and disturb my peace, reproving and bringing me under condemnation, so that at some seasons I was made to drink deep of the bitter waters of shame and confusion, so that when I have laid my head on the pillow, I have greatly feared that I should die, and that everlasting misery would be my portion, at which times I have not dared to look up for support to Him whom I had so greatly offended, and after bemoaning my condition have endeavored to appease myself with the resolution that if I was spared through the night I would try to amend my ways and my doings, and would shun vain company — when perhaps the very next day a fresh temptation would assail and prove too strong for me; having no might or strength of my own to resist it. Thus I spent two years more of my precious time, bestowed upon me for a far more noble and dignified purpose, even the working out the salvation of my poor soul. But all this time I have great cause to believe that the watchful eye of a kind Providence was upon me for good. Oh I can never sufficiently adore his goodness and tender mercy in leading my soul to unfeigned repentance for past sins, and in opening my understanding to see that there must be a forsaking the evil, before we can learn to do well.

I now began to grow weary of my course of folly, yet knew not how to break off; and feeling a strong inclination to return to my before mentioned aunt I did so about the 19th year of my age. In this family I was more secluded from young company and had frequent opportunity of attending Friends meetings, which I had seldom done when at home in my father's family; yet the enemy would often assault me, tempting to the indulgence of youthful gratifications in vanity and levity, at which I was

often troubled; but whilst here my mind became impressed with seriousness and deep thoughtfulness; I read Friends writings, both ancient and those of later date, which strengthened and confirmed my mind in what I felt and believed respecting the inward and saving principle of divine light and grace, that it was the promised Comforter, the reprover and just Judge; that it was the second appearance of Jesus Christ who reproved all sin, condemned every evil thought, word and action; but was a comforter and consoler of the poor in spirit, satisfying and strengthening, feeding and clothing the mind truly sensible of its own wretched, blind, miserable and weak destitute condition, its utter incapacity of doing any good thing without this holy Helper and divine Instructor. I had nevertheless many trials and deep exercises to pass through — some close conflicts arising from known duty and the creaturely inclinations. I found it hard work to come under the power of the cross — to be crucified to the world and the love thereof, and become willing to appear as a fool; — yet I clearly saw that there was no other way to find true peace and rest to my poor soul but by coming to Christ Jesus our holy Redeemer and mediator between God and erring mortals, and submitting to his yoke and discipline; and as I was preserved low and humble, endeavoring to keep a single eye unto God, who knew the sincerity of my heart, He was pleased to make way for me in one thing after another, to my great wonder, and I found that I had much to unlearn as well as much to learn; finding a care on my spirit to watch my words and ways, which brought the answer of peace.

It has oft times been marvellous to me when I have recurred to those seasons of my first espousals, that the use of the plain language should have

been such an heavy cross to me, when I knew it was the language used in Scripture, and most proper; yet when it pleased the Lord to require it of me, it seemed as though I never could conform to it. I said, anything Lord but this, even my natural life if thou demands it. Oh! this was a pinching time, the grand adversary suggesting that if I began I should never hold out, and so bring reproach upon the blessed cause of Truth. The necessity I felt to be faithful was great, but how to perform I knew not. But He who is rich in mercy and who had begun the work did not leave me in this season of deep conflict, but enabled me in his own time to yield obedience in this, which afforded true satisfaction of heart. I also found a necessity upon me to show forth by my outward appearance that I was endeavoring to follow a meek, lowly and crucified Saviour in the path of self-denial and the daily cross. I have often viewed with astonishment many who have been privileged with a birthright in our society, when I have heard them plead for liberty in those things which we as a people are called out from, and have a testimony against, saying there is no harm in this or that, it is a trifle, religion consists not in such trifles — but I believe it is all to gratify and please a carnal mind. Ah, surely such have never known a coming under the sanctifying power of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, which alone can redeem the soul out of the pit of pollution — have never yielded obedience to the divine call to come out and be separate, and touch no unclean thing. Are not these in danger of being found amongst those who are trampling under foot the blessed invitations of the Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, as well as these precious testimonies given us to support; testimonies for which our worthy predecessors suffered greatly.

I am abundantly persuaded that that pure, holy and divine principle of light, truth and grace, which at the first gathered our worthy forefathers out of the forms, fashions, customs and manners of the world, to be a people to his own praise and glory, is still the same in all who turn to it, and receive it in the love of it; and that it would lead all who are rightly convinced and are faithful in obeying its teachings, into the same path our ancestors were guided into, for with the Truth there is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

I now began to attend meetings pretty constantly and to be more and more in Friends company, and felt my love to them increase; and their ways which had appeared rather uncouth, were now pleasant and even desirable. And now believing it right I made application to the Monthly meeting of Westport, Massachusetts for admittance into membership, and after due waiting was received a member of the Society of Friends, being entered my 21st year.

Soon after I had united myself to Friends, I returned to Rhode-Island to live in my father's family. This circumstance brought a fresh trial and exercise upon me, being now much in the way of seeing my former companions in vanity and folly, I was thoughtful how I should be able to withstand temptation, or so to keep my place as to be preserved from bringing any reproach on the truth, which I greatly desired to do; and in order to do this it appeared safest for me to keep mostly retired from such company as would have a tendency to draw me away. I visited but few in those days and such as I deemed religious, spending my leisure hours in reading and retirement. I chiefly read the holy Scriptures, but some in other religious books, and many valuable pieces I transcribed from differ-

ent authors which not only improved my mind but my writing also; and believe that through the watchful care of an allwise Providence my keeping thus retired from vain company in my infant state of religious experience, was truly favorable to a growth therein. I took great satisfaction in the attendance of religious meetings, and in the company of faithful Friends.

But many were the trials and exercises of that day; some bitter cups I had to partake of, some deeply proving seasons to pass through, the extent of which was unknown to any but the Lord alone; and to Him did I pour out my complaint, in the anguish of my soul as into the bosom of a faithful friend, and sometimes received encouragement to forget those things which are behind, both inward conflicts and outward trials, — to press forward through all toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus, and thus strengthened I have gone on my way rejoicing for a season. At times I was much beset by the old accuser of the brethren, who accused me of being a deceiver and endeavored to make me believe that I was deluded and should one day fall, and then it would be proved. Oh most fervently did I cry unto Him who knoweth the secrets of all hearts to make me just what He would have me to be. Thus I passed on under many trials and straits, feeling my faith at times reduced to a very small grain, and again to be revived through the blessed hope of the Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, for which blessed hope's sake I was made willing to suffer, and to endure tribulation.

A prospect which I was favored with in my very young years, of being called to the work of the ministry, was now revived on my mind, but with very different sensations, for I then thought that if

the Lord would but prepare me for the work, I should not be afraid to go forth and call upon the wicked everywhere to return, repent and live. But sorrowful as it may be, through a long course of vanity this once animating prospect had been quite lost sight of, and I now had many doubts and reasonings on the subject, fearing to yield to the requisition, lest I should bring reproach on the truth; for truly I thought, none ever engaged in this great work that was more unworthy. At other times the evidence was clear, and when I have sat in meetings, Scripture passages have been presented to my mind with a lively opening and spring of feeling to stand up, when instead of yielding simple obedience thereto, I have sat under the exercise until I have been brought to tremble to that degree, that the form whereon I sat would shake; and by letting in the reasoner all hath vanished, leaving my mind poor, dark and distressed; nevertheless in adorable mercy the Lord still followed and plead with me both immediately and instrumentally. Some valuable Friends about this time visiting our meeting were led to speak with precision to my condition, which in some good degree confirmed and strengthened my mind; and I often sat in meetings under great bowedness and contrition of spirit. At length I was enabled through holy help to yield to this requisition and appeared in a few words at our week-day meeting at Portsmouth, R. I. (being as I remember in the 24th year of my age) for which act of obedience I felt the reward of sweet peace. After this I did not appear in this way often, and when I did it was mostly in a few words which generally brought the reward of peace, and I did not discover but that Friends were satisfied with my weak and low appearances. But here I may acknowledge a weakness, one

which I fear is too apt to prevail in young ministers to their wounding, more especially in their first setting out in this important work. I greatly desired to be preserved from bringing any dishonor on the Truth, and from being in any degree burdensome to Friends, so that I felt great care that what I delivered might be sound and consistent in every sense of the word; indeed I was *too* careful in this respect, as though the key of David was not sufficient and wholly to be relied on for strength and ability, mouth and wisdom, tongue and utterance. Oh! to His own eternal praise be this reliance forever acknowledged by all his true ministers, and may all beware of this artifice of the wicked one. Oh! this was too much my fear, a slavish fear indeed, which I was afterwards favored to see was an error, and had its origin in that which is of the creature, and which I found was appointed for the sword; for in this way there can be no right progress witnessed. I found from experience, that no human strength nor ability must be depended on in performing the Lord's work, but an entire dependence witnessed on the everlasting arm of divine power, with whom alone are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge, and when He openeth none can shut, and when He shutteth none can open. Man may from the strength of reason and acquired knowledge, and by the help of memory, make something appear that may by the unlearned in the school of Christ, be taken and passed for the pure gold, but to those who are circumcised by the power of Truth in heart and ear, it will be plain from what root it springs; and I am abundantly persuaded that no such offering, however it may be glossed and embellished by human contrivance, will ever find acceptance with the Father of spirits; — but such sacrifices as are of His own

preparing, He will be pleased graciously to own and to bless with the enriching reward of peace, however small, weak and low, they may appear in the view of the wise of this world.

I had many close trials and deep baptisms to pass through; the enemy of all good did most severely buffet and beset me, tempting me to believe that I was mistaken in apprehending myself called to the work of the ministry, that I should never advance therein to the honor of truth — that I must one day acknowledge this to Friends with shame and confusion, and the sooner I did this the better it would be for me; and so powerful hath this temptation been upon me at times, that I have been ready to conclude to open my mind to Friends on the subject, but could never feel quite ready. I fervently desired of the Lord, that if I was in an error He would be mercifully pleased to show it me. I felt willing to suffer shame if Truth might be cleared; and in this tossed tried state of mind I think I did not appear in the ministry in public meetings for nearly a year. I knew not what Friends thought of me, but conjectured that some thought I had given way to unprofitable discouragements (which was the case) — they were generally prudent in their conduct towards me, and so long as they did not discourage my appearances I considered that I had their countenance, and this I believe is encouragement enough. Oh, it is good for us to feel our own standing, taking heed to our own ways, not trusting to outward dependencies which may fail us in the most needful time; but keeping a single eye to the honor and glory of our holy Head, not looking nor seeking after that which is of man, we shall know an increase in that which will be owned by the faithful everywhere.

But the Lord in his adorable love and mercy

arose when He saw that it was enough, and scattered my soul's enemies, renewing His covenant of life and peace in my heart; the clouds were dispelled and the sun shone again with clearness, and I now frequently appeared in our meetings; and after Friends had waited for full satisfaction they acknowledged me as a minister in unity.

The following I find amongst my papers written about the time of these exercises.

1803. 11th Mo. 30th. "Oh Thou who art the infinite source and fountain of all our sure mercies, be pleased once more to forgive my rebellious heart, once more prove me by thy kindness, and through thy blessed assistance I will surrender myself up to thee, yet I pray thee let not thine eye pity, neither let thine hand spare, until all that appertains to self is slain upon thy holy cross. Oh strengthen me to resist the tempter, defeat O Lord his wicked purposes and frustrate them, and if consistent with thy blessed will, quicken me again and again to descend oftener than the morning to the washing pool that I may wash my hands in innocency. Then will I speak of thy goodness and of thy loving kindness even in the midst of the congregation of thy people. Oh let me experience the live coal taken from thine holy altar laid on my lips, and feel the evidence that God will provide himself an offering."

But through all, I endeavored to keep humble and near to the great Shepherd of Israel, who mercifully condescended to preserve me through many sore conflicts and painful baptisms, although I might oft times have adopted the language of David and said, my foot had well nigh slipped, but the Lord was my stay and prevented my fall, adored be his blessed and worthy Name forever.

1809. 2d. mo. Having of late great and renewed cause to reflect on the uncertainty of time, and feeling most sensibly the awful necessity of being in a state of preparation to meet the God of heaven and earth, I most devoutly crave of Almighty goodness, preservation from every thing that would in any degree divert my mind from its great business — that which I feel to be all important, even the salvation of my immortal soul. O, kind and compassionate Father, be pleased to keep me from all evil — grant that it may become my meat and my drink to do thy holy will, be thou near in the hour of distress, my support, my refuge, my God and my alone defence. Oh dearest Father, in the extendings of thy love and thy mercy, remember and regard the whole bulk of mankind, even those who are most remote from thy Truth and thy holy fear. Oh gather unto thy sacred fold sons and daughters as from the North and from the South — let not the workmanship of thy holy hand perish, but bring all unto an acquaintance with thee, and into the saving knowledge of thy Truth. Oh remember the nations contending with each other, who are staining the earth with their blood, and sheath the sword that is drawn to devour. Say to the destroying angel, it is enough. Hasten, O gracious Redeemer, the happy day when thy blessed will shall be accomplished, and thy kingdom of peace and righteousness shall come on earth even as in heaven. In thine own time, Oh Lord, hasten thy work; thy will Oh Father alone be done.

Third mo. 26th. I desire truly to thank thee, O blessed Lord, that thou hast caused me to know, that true consolation is only to be derived from an entire surrender of our wills, to thy divine and holy will in all things.

[In the year 1810, with the concurrence of Friends, she accompanied Ann Smith, a minister of her own Quarterly meeting on a religious visit to some of the meetings within the limits of New York, Philadelphia and Baltimore Yearly meetings, from which she returned as appears with the reward of peace; though after reaching the eastern shore of Maryland, she was prevented by sickness from prosecuting the journey further, but was enabled to return to Philadelphia, and in that city and neighborhood remained in a feeble state until the return of her companion.]

In reference to her situation there she says, "I was favored to be with kind friends and good caretakers, to many of whom I felt nearly united, who, were made truly to sympathize with me in this my lonely and solitary situation, and although my little faith seemed reduced to a small grain, yet I was strengthened to believe that I was not wholly forsaken of my heavenly Father, who best knew what was best for me."

[After her notice of this journey, some of the details of which are omitted for the sake of brevity, she proceeds as follows:]

After my return from the above mentioned visit I kept steadily to meetings as they came in course, and was favored at times to partake of that divine refreshment which our heavenly Father is at seasons mercifully pleased to afford to all His rightly depending children, who cannot be satisfied with anything short of heavenly bread — that which alone can nourish the soul up unto everlasting life.

My mind was however often clothed with poverty and inward leanness, and some close exercises and trials were attendant, arising both from within and without; the enemy of all good grievously besetting me, and seeking to overthrow my faith.

But through the merciful interposition of a blessed Redeemer, an holy advocate with the Father, he was resisted and put to flight — praised and magnified be the Lord's holy name and power, now and for evermore; amen, amen.

1813. This year in the fifth month I was married to James Tucker, a worthy Friend and elder, belonging to Dartmouth Monthly Meeting.

I had previous to my marriage felt my mind drawn to visit the Quarterly Meetings of Salem, Vassalborough and Sandwich, and apprehending the time had come to accomplish it, I left home in the eighth month following, having the unity and concurrence of our (Rhode Island) Monthly Meeting; in company with Ann Smith, with whom I had formerly travelled as companion, she having a similar prospect. We visited Salem and Vassalborough Quarterly meetings, taking meetings on our way thither, as we did in returning to Sandwich Quarter, which we also attended; from thence I returned home with my dear husband, who met me at that place, and was favored to find our family and friends well, which was cause of gratitude to the author of every blessing.

Although I was frequently in this journey tried with poverty of spirit, and suffered much from indisposition of body, yet, nevertheless it pleased Almighty goodness at some meetings which we attended to manifest Himself to be near in opening the way for some relief to my exercised mind, although mostly in a few words, for I was fearful of exceeding the bounds of truth's requirings, in uttering words without life, dreading much to be numbered with those who for so doing shall have to lie down in sorrow. I was thankful that I was made willing to go on this journey. Oh may none despise the

day of small things, for surely if we overlook and despise the day of small things, we shall never be entitled to more. This I have seen, I have felt and experienced it to be a truth; but be thou faithful in the little and thou shalt be made ruler over more.

Soon after my return I removed to Dartmouth, and settled to house-keeping with my dear husband and his children; when I was soon overtaken with unexpected trials and deep baptisms, being plunged into the very depths of distress both as to my outward and inward condition. I was for six or seven years successively, visited with sickness by which I was often confined to my room and bed for weeks and months, and almost may I not say for years; not being able to go out sometimes more than twice or thrice in the course of a year, reduced at times as it were to the very brink of the grave, and in these trying moments my mind was often stripped and divested of all true consolation, resembling a barren and fruitless waste. I was tempted to believe that surely I had never known the blessed truth as it is in Jesus — that I was deceived, and had deceived others in pretending to know something of its purifying, redeeming power, to cleanse and redeem my soul in measure from under the yoke of sin and power of Satan; for I could scarcely believe that any one who had sincerely endeavored to love, serve and fear the Lord, would in the hour of suffering and tribulation be thus left as I feared I was, a prey to the grand enemy of man's salvation. In this situation my soul refused all consolation which might possibly have any tincture of the creature with it, but was at seasons, through adorable mercy able to breathe out the language, Oh! that my life, the life of my soul may be given me for a prey, whatever my afflictions and trials may be.

Many valuable Friends visited me in this season of sifting and winnowing, who would frequently express their belief that all would work together for good; that the divine arm of power was underneath, and would preserve through all, and yet bring my feet out of the mire, and establish them on the sure Rock; that the Lord would in His own time renewedly anoint me for His own work — that those deeply proving dispensations were not so much to correct for past omissions, as to prepare for greater and more extensive usefulness in His Church. But Oh! I could not see nor receive it at that time; the anguish of my heart being great, too great to be described by tongue or pen. Those only who have been thus deserted, or have felt themselves to be so, under such heart-rending sorrows, can realize my sufferings; for although I had every outward comfort and accommodation that heart could wish, being blessed of the Lord with a kind and tender companion and affectionate children, yet all could not alleviate my distress. It was the Beloved of souls that I panted after, even as the heart panteth after the water brooks. But alas! I could not find Him whom my soul loved, for a long time. Thus I passed several years, being but a few times able to attend meetings, and when I did attend, Oh! the dryness and barrenness which I felt. How sincerely did I lament and bemoan my sad condition — how did I labor after patience and resignation, yet am sorrowfully sensible that I did not always abide therein — and Oh! when I felt that I had given way in the least to the tempter, how would my troubles be augmented. These were indeed days wherein my cup was made a cup of wormwood and gall; my soul hath them still in remembrance, and is humbled within me.

The following was written at intervals during my long state of weakness.

1814. Fifth mo. 4th "What I say unto you, I say unto all, watch." I feel the necessity of attending to this important injunction, which was pressingly enjoined by best wisdom, and in best authority; believing it to be the only place of safety and refuge from the wiles and snares of an unwearied enemy, and the temptations of a delusive world. Many are the testimonies recorded in the sacred writings, of the immovableness of those who have persevered in this duty, trusting at all times in the arm of omnipotence, having their eye single to the glory of God. These as they have abode in their tents and dwelt on the watch tower, have been enabled through faith in the mighty Jehovah, not only to meet the cross occurrences of life with tranquillity of mind, but even to put to flight whole armies; yea, their most potent enemies; these not being able to stand before them, or to deter them from still cleaving to their strong Rock and tower of safety.

Be pleased most gracious Father to strengthen my poor soul, as with might in the inner man, that under a renewed sense of the great need of daily waiting upon thee for fresh supplies of help and strength, I may be quickened and aroused to pray as it were without ceasing, and instead of repining at these proving dispensations, come more and more to witness a preparation of heart to return unto thee thanksgiving and praise for the reaching forth of thy rod, as well as thy staff. Oh! for this watchful prayerful state. Enable me, oh righteous Father, to abide herein where no harm can approach me. Oh happy experience! Oh blessed attainment! seek after it oh my soul in the name of Israel's

God; yea, press after it more than for hidden treasure.

1815. Ninth mo. 3d. Oh! Lord thou alone art fully acquainted with my many weaknesses and infirmities, and thou only it is that can strengthen and enable me to press onward through all and every besetment, until by thy sanctifying power I am prepared to sit under the shadow of thy holy wing, to know thy love and divine mercy spread over and round about, that none may be able to make me afraid; so that although afflictions may abound both on the right hand and on the left, my mind, inwardly stayed and supported by thy all sustaining presence, may witness safety and preservation. O grant me humble resignation to every of thy all wise allotments, and wilt thou Oh Lord, thoroughly purge the floor of my heart, that my soul may be purified and cleansed, fit to be received into thy heavenly garner.

1819. Seventh mo. 7th. To day I went to our week-day meeting, not having been able for nearly a year past to get to one on account of bodily indisposition. It was truly grateful to meet once more with my dear friends, although under a feeling sense of much strippedness and poverty.

The same day after my return from meeting I received intelligence of the decease of a beloved sister on Rhode-Island, desiring my attendance if able, and I being a little recruited from my very low estate concluded to go. Accordingly I left home the next day, under a great weight of inward exercise and outward weakness, my dear husband accompaying me in order to attend her funeral; but the undertaking proved too much for my weak state of health; being taken unwell on the road

was obliged to stop at the first house, which proved to be but poorly fitted for my condition, though I believe I felt as thankful as I could have done in the more splendid apartments of the rich, for it mattered little with me at that time, when I lay me down on the bed almost exhausted and spent, and for sometime doubted whether I should not finish my life in that place; but through the interposition of Almighty goodness who hath His way in the thick cloud and in the storm, my spirit so revived that I was enabled before night to reach my dear brother's, but was not able to attend the funeral next day, being very feeble. My husband concluded to leave me there and return to our family. Only a day or two elapsed before I was taken very ill, and sent for him to return. My life was for a time despaired of, and now it was that there seemed to be a general breaking up of all things, not only the earth, but the heavens also were shaken, yea, the foundations of the mighty deep were discovered; and I saw that all must be surrendered — even that life itself must not be held dear, but all must give way when He, the Lord of life and glory comes to rule and reign in our hearts. I saw that I had been unfaithful, and had not unflinchingly borne the cross, despising the shame; but had too much shrunk from being accounted a fool for Christ Jesus sake, and the Gospel's; at which my soul was struck with amazement and self-abhorrence, yet was suffered to look for mercy to the God and Father of all our sure mercies, trusting only in Him, the sure hope and Redeemer of His people, to whom I could appeal that He knew the sincerity of my endeavors to serve Him, although I had often disobeyed and swerved from His holy law and commands. A benignant beam of divine and heavenly light now encircled my soul, and warmed my heart with

Gospel love, in which my mind was drawn forth mentally to visit many places, families, and individuals in the constraining power thereof; whereby faith sprang up, and hope revived, in a firm belief that I must yet more fully and faithfully declare to others, what the Lord hath done for my poor soul; which has since been abundantly verified — may all blessing, glory, honor and power be ascribed unto the Lord God and the Lamb forever, and forever more. It was five months before I was able to return to my precious family, which was a sore trial, but believe it was submitted to with a good degree of patience and resignation, for which favor I bless the Lord.

I returned in the twelfth month, to the mutual joy and rejoicing of us all, with I trust, heartfelt gratitude and thankfulness to the Lord, for His abundant mercy vouchsafed unto me, a poor worm of the dust. My heart bowed in reverent acknowledgment of His goodness, and could livingly sing His praise, saying, "Great and marvellous are thy works, Lord God Almighty, just and true are thy ways, thou King of saints."

A short time previous to my sickness at Rhode-Island, I had the following dream, which made a deep and lasting impression on my mind, and was to me a very significant one. I thought I was confined in a dark and dismal room, amongst foul and unclean spirits, which filled my mind with inexpressible horror and dread, apprehending this might be my final fixed state; but my soul greatly abhorred and abominated the place with all its inmates; and I said, Oh! Lord I can never rest here, then struggled hard to extricate myself, but was much surprized to find that I could not so much as move one finger; so, after making several attempts to rescue myself to no purpose, I submitted myself

to the mercy of a gracious God, uttering this language, "if it be thy will, Oh Lord that this should forever be my portion, thy blessed will be done;" then my mind became calm, and a placid light shone about me, the darkness with all its horrors vanished, I felt peaceful, and that which held me as a chain was broken, and I awoke.

Feeling in my mind a strong draft toward the members of our Monthly meeting, in the following winter, 1820, I visited a considerable part of the families thereto belonging; in which service I found great inward peace, finding my way very open amongst them, and believe it was well received by Friends. I was now favored with ability mostly to attend meetings at and about home, and this year, our Yearly meeting, which I had not many times done since my residence at Dartmouth; soon after which I was again visited with sickness, and brought very low, suffering much from the severe and excruciating pains which I underwent, yet was my mind preserved clear and in a good degree quiet, firmly believing that He, who had been with me in six troubles would not leave me in the seventh, but would safely bring me through all. Sometimes at intervals when free from pain, I committed to writing some of the exercises of my mind on various subjects.

It was about this time, or a little before, that the spirit of antichrist manifested itself under the specious and high pretensions of greater light, and more spirituality, in our once peaceful borders, which was pretty early discovered and detected by those whose inward eye was kept single to the light of Truth as it is in Jesus. But the twining serpent so prevailed over some who had long filled eminent stations in the church, as to draw them down as

from Heaven to earth, and many being influenced and drawn away through their example, separated themselves from the body, and are now scattered up and down, having no certain abiding place for the feet of their minds to stay upon; having rejected the only hope and refuge of the weary and heavy laden with sin, *Christ Jesus*, the righteous, denying His divinity and godhead, also the efficacy of that most precious offering of Himself on the cross, wherein He tasted death for every man, and suffered for our sakes, the just for the unjust, that through faith in His atoning blood, we might witness redemption out of our fallen and lost condition by and through obedience unto Him, who hath appeared the second time in our hearts a leader and commander without sin unto salvation. Oh! to what an height of impiety man may arrive when left to his own choosing. How did I bewail the condition of some whom I once esteemed as way-marks, as fathers and mothers in our Israel, whose example had often been strengthening to me. Indeed the language hath often been — How are the mighty fallen, and the shield of the mighty been vilely cast away, as though they had not been anointed with oil. How have some swerved from the blessed Truth, having loved this present world and the liberties thereof, and made shipwreck of faith and a good conscience. What will such in the great day of final account do? What subterfuge can they make for themselves; for surely there is no other name given whereby we can be saved, but by the name of Jesus, and unto Him every knee must bow, and every tongue confess, either in judgment or in mercy, sooner or later, either in time or in eternity; and there is no way or means whereby we can elude this day of all our other days. From such preserve me, Oh! thou

God of power and might, hide me from the cruel arrows of the archers, and from the venom of the twining serpent as in thy secret pavilion.

1820. Seventh mo. 17th. Oh! strengthen me to bear my pains and infirmities with christian fortitude, great Father and fountain of all strength.

Can any one with more propriety adopt this language. It is good for me that I have been afflicted, my keenest trials have been to me sources of unspeakable joy and consolation; why then should I repine, nay, I do not repine, but, "For all I bless thee; most, for the severe."

18th. This day feeble, my poor fabric ready to totter with weakness, yet through mercy, adorable mercy, my mind is supported and kept from sinking; steadfastly believing that all things through faith and patience, whether in sickness or health, life or death, will work together for my everlasting good.

During my confinement this summer my mind was often deeply exercised on account of the prevalency of that rending spirit which is making sorrowful devastation in our society, sowing discord amongst brethren, dividing as in Jacob, and scattering in Israel; having a deep sense thereof on my spirit, although at this season much secluded from being amongst it, yet often was my mind covered with mourning and lamentation on this account, feeling a deep travail of soul for the prosperity of Zion, desiring that her cords might be lengthened and her stakes strengthened, notwithstanding the wrath of the dragon, and the mighty floods of opposition poured out of his mouth against the Lamb and his followers; firmly believing that all those who remain stedfast in that precious faith

once delivered to the saints, being sound in principle and practice will yet be favored, when the whirlwind, the fire, and the storm are passed away, to look upon Zion, the city of our solemnities, and behold Jerusalem a quiet habitation. Not one of her stakes shall ever be removed, or cords broken, but I believe that the glorious Lord will ever remain to be unto *His* church and people, as a place of broad rivers and streams, wherein shall go no galley with oars, neither shall gallant ships pass thereby. For Christ Jesus, the immutable Rock is still the holy head, Judge and divine Lawgiver of His own Church. O, that we may be more and more gathered under the pure influence of His holy Spirit.

It has been too much a time of ease with us, as a society, too much unconcernedness has prevailed amongst us — O, may these afflictions which He hath permitted to overtake us, be the means of stirring up our hearts to more diligence, and greater faithfulness; to a willingness to come under the baptizing power of divine Truth, that we may be cleansed from the defilements and spots of a degenerate world, and become through obedience to the cross of Christ, of that happy number who believe to the saving of the soul, for the Lord hath no pleasure in the soul that draweth back.

Ninth mo. 25th. A little omission of duty last evening has been productive of poverty; O Lord, I pray thee let not thine eye have pity, neither let thine hand spare, until thou hast entirely reduced and subjected all that is in me to thy holy will; until I become wholly subservient to thy gracious purposes.

27th. Very feeble and distressed in body, yet

inwardly engaged to supplicate for preservation and patience, and a firm reliance on that Arm which is omnipotent.

28th. Low in body and mind, yet my hope remains strong in Christ Jesus my only Redeemer.

Tenth mo. 1st. Oh, the bitter waters of Meribah! my soul well knows their taste. Sustain me O Lord, even me, a poor abject worm, by thine arm of divine power; thou knowest and art only acquainted with the secret conflicts and hidden trials of my heart — O preserve me, and let not the enemy have dominion over my soul.

9th. Oh gracious God, suffer not the waves of affliction to overwhelm my soul; but be thou near to support and bear me up by the right hand of thy power, that in thine own time, living stones of memorial may be brought up to the praise of thine excellent power and majesty.

10th. I find that for the week past I have gained a little in my health, and the prospect looks at present as if I might soon be about among my friends. O, the mercy and goodness of God, His wisdom is unsearchable, and His ways past finding out; bless and forever adore His goodness and tender mercy, oh my soul, yea, let all that is within me, bless His holy name, for He hath made me glad in my afflictions, and to rejoice in my infirmities.

13th. More comfortable, yet not wholly exempt from pain — but murmur not, O my soul.

In thus writing when able, for the relief of my exercised mind, I hope my precious time is not spent altogether to no profit, for I desire above all

things, so to be found, filling up my allotment, as that when the last great call may be heard, I may be enabled to say, "Come Lord for thy servant is ready."

Eleventh mo. 8th. Poor and dry. O, mighty Father, preserve me in patience, be thou pleased to be near to help; for thou art my strength and only hope of salvation, my true and never failing friend. The poor in spirit, the humble in heart, thou wilt never despise or turn from; O, then grant, I beseech thee, thy holy help, to keep me always low and humble before thee.

Twelfth mo. 16th. My mind is often bowed under the awful apprehension, lest after having so largely experienced the goodness and mercy of a gracious God, I should be like forgetful Israel of old, who when they saw his wonders in the deep, sang his praise, but soon forgot his works. O Lord, my strong Rock and my Redeemer, sooner let my right hand forget its cunning, and my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth, than that I should forget thy gracious and tender dealings with me; how thou didst support and sustain when the raging billows were ready to overflow and swallow me up! Then didst thou by thine all powerful arm, deliver my soul from all oppression, and from sorrow. O condescend, holy One to be my keeper, my shield and my strength, I am poor and weak, helpless as an infant; I need thy blessed aid and Fatherly care to direct my ways, and to guide me in thy holy counsel. O preserve me at all times in thy holy fear, whereby I may know my heart cleansed from all that is not of thine own begetting.

Twelfth mo. O, the need of patience—holy faith

and patience, rightly to progress in the christian journey! Tribulations surround us on every hand. Ah, I feel of a truth, that I cannot take one step in the road to Zion, except thou art my leader, O, thou high and holy One, who condescended to be to thy chosen people, formerly, a pillar of fire by night, and of cloud by day, to direct their course aright through the waste howling wilderness. O, be mercifully near to succour, and to shield from danger, both on the right hand and on the left; strengthen me in all things to do thy holy will; in *all* things, however repugnant to nature. O, may I more and more love the righteous restrictions of thy blessed cross, for I do know, and can testify that they are good and abundantly necessary. It is good to lay low and feel ourselves small in the estimation of men; it is the humble whom thou teachest of thy ways, and the meek, thou wilt guide in the paths of true judgment.

About this time I was favored through adorable mercy, with a degree of returning health, so as to be able again to attend our meetings, (which I had not done for a number of months,) and was often favored therein with the renewings of heavenly life, under which precious influence, the everlasting truths of the Gospel were at times declared.

Safely protected through the night*
Inspire my heart to raise
O! Thou eternal God of might,
A tribute to thy praise.

To thy all-wise Almighty power,
My life I humbly owe,
Thou wast my refuge in the hour
Of pain, distress, and woe.

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*Referring to her long season of distress both of body and mind.

Thy mercy and thy tender love,
How precious to my mind,
When agonizing pains did prove,
My heart no rest could find,

But in a firm belief and hope
Thou wouldst be near to save,
And in the trying hour support,
To look beyond the grave.

To view those blissful mansions where
Redeemed souls shall come,
Whose garments are made white and pure,
Washed in the living stream.

Eternal fountain of all good,
To thee for help I cry,
O! help me Lord, for thou art God,
On thee I will rely.

Thou hast me succor'd from my youth,
Yea, in my infant days,
Thy tender mercy did surround,
Alluring to thy ways.

Thy ways are ways of pleasantness,
Thy paths with peace abound,
Then may I love thy holy cross
And with thy flock be found.

That precious chosen little band
Who travel Zion's road,
Who seek to find that better land
Where sorrows ne'er intrude.

E'en where the wicked cease to grieve
The tribulated seed,
And where the weary find relief
From all oppression freed.

O! dearest Father grant thy aid
To finish here with peace,
'Tis all I ask, 'tis all I crave,
Not that baptisms cease.

Give strength to bear them as I ought,
This, this is my request,
O may my mind with faith be fraught,
Assured of heavenly rest.

1821. In the fourth month this year, I performed a religious visit to the families of Friends belonging to Rhode-Island Monthly Meeting, having the unity and concurrence of our own monthly meeting. My dear husband accompanied me in this visit; it was much to the peace and satisfaction of my own mind, and I have no reason to doubt its being generally so to Friends of that place; may all praise and honor be ascribed unto Him who only is worthy.

After this, I was again pretty much confined at home by sickness, for more than a year, though able to attend our own particular and monthly meeting a few times. Oh, none can know the extent of the suffering and distress which the Lord hath brought me through, but Himself alone; but this I can say, He hath been rich in mercy, tender and very gracious in all His dealings with me. My soul can speak well of his excellent Name, and magnify, exalt and praise his mighty power, which is above every other power, worthy forever, with the Son of His love, the Lamb immaculate, of high renown, worship, adoration and living praises, forever, and forever more, amen, amen.

1823. In the tenth month of this year, in company with Susan Howland, a ministering Friend, of New Bedford Monthly Meeting, I visited nearly all the meetings of Friends in Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting, taking a few also in Smithfield Quarter, having in order hereto, obtained a minute of concurrence from our Monthly Meeting. Although

in this visit, poverty was much my companion, yet was I favored to keep in a good degree of quiet resignation, under a deep sense of the general low depressed state of the seed of the everlasting kingdom of Jesus Christ, who is the Seed and Word of God. Oh, the patience that is requisite for the poor servant to keep sufficiently low, and willing to abide under suffering with it. Yet I believe there is no other way to witness an holy arising, as in newness of life, but by willingly suffering with the suffering seed. Here alone it is, that we are made livingly to experience in His own blessed time, the power of His resurrection, who is Lord over all; we must be fully resigned to suffer with Him, being daily conformed unto His death through submission to His cross. I felt peace in being given up to this requisition, and was made thankfully to rejoice, in that I had been preserved both in my going out, and coming in, from wounding the precious cause of Truth; blessed be the name and power of Israel's Shepherd.

1824. This year I was favored to attend our Yearly Meeting, also most of our own, and some adjacent meetings, often feeling my mind opened and enlarged in public testimony, in a word of comfort to the mourners, of encouragement to the weary, and of reproof of backsliders. Oh! Lord, Thou hast dealt very graciously with us, thy long suffering has been great toward a backsliding and rebellious people; but thou hast arisen, and art turning thy holy hand upon us, in order to try our foundations, whether they are built on Christ Jesus, the Rock of ages, or on the sand. The day will declare our works, of what sort they are, whether they be such as will stand the storm and the tempest. Alas! for those who shall not be found build-

ing on the immutable Rock. O! that all may see before it be too late, those things that belong to their everlasting peace. O! that all might hear, and fear, and return unto the Lord, who will abundantly pardon those who come unto Him in humble faith, for pardon and salvation.

1825. This year in the fifth month, I accompanied S. H., on a religious visit to the families of Friends, of New Bedford preparative meeting. In this visit, was mostly shut up as to Gospel communication, except in a few families, where I felt the spring of life to arise, and ability given to clear myself; but generally, it was a low, suffering season with me, yet I believe my good Master had an end, and a gracious design in thus leading me from house to house, as with my lips sealed. O! this is trying to the creaturely part, but this I have learned that he that would be wise, must first become a fool. After this, I attended the Yearly Meeting.

Having for a considerable time, felt a drawing in my mind, to make a visit in the love of the Gospel to some parts of Philadelphia Yearly Meeting, and believing the time had arrived to proceed therein, I laid my concern before our Monthly meeting, which expressed its unity and sympathy with me therein, and furnished me with a certificate thereof, which I proceeded to lay before our Quarterly Meeting in the seventh month following, and recieved its endorsement.

I left home the 19th of ninth month, having for my companion, Hannah Dennis, a ministering Friend, belonging to R. I. Monthly Meeting. We attended Pomfret and Middlesex Meetings on our way, in Connecticut, the last, a precious watering opportunity.

28th and 29th. At Plainfield and Stony Brook, in New Jersey, in which we felt cause for mourning. 30th. Attended a meeting by appointment, at Bristol, in Bucks Quarterly Meeting, which was a low, discouraging season. Thence we proceeded to Philadelphia, and lodged at dear John Morton's.

Tenth mo. 1st. and first of the week. We attended Pine Street Meeting in the morning, and Arch Street in the evening, both of them suffering seasons. I felt the pure seed to be greatly oppressed and borne down, as under a cart that is full of sheaves.

2d. Rode to Frankford, where we had a meeting, in which the power of divine life arose over all opposition, blessed be the Lord, my only helper. 3d. Was at a meeting at Radnor, which was dark and distressing. O! the darkness of unbelief, the hardness and bitterness which I felt at some places hereaway — my soul mourned over their desolated state — may the Lord grant them repentance.

4th. Had a meeting at East Whiteland, which was an opportunity worthy to be commemorated, wherein our minds were bowed under the fresh extendings of divine favor. 5th and 6th. At the Monthly Meeting of Uwchland, and an appointed meeting at Pikeland. 7th. We rested at a kind Friend's house, and wrote letters to our dear friends at home.

8th. Attended Nantmill meeting, in silence on my part, having no commission. O Lord, preserve me from all creaturely activity, in humble waiting before thee. 9th. Rode to Robertson. 10th. Attended a meeting in this place, which was to good satisfaction, and next day travelled to Lampeter. 12th. Had a meeting here, which proved a trying one; thence rode to Columbia. 13th. Had a meet-

ing in this place, which was favored, the Lord condescending to be mouth and wisdom, tongue and utterance, to the admiration I believe of many present, our appearance being but low.

14th. Rode to Sadsbury, and 15th was at meeting in this place, a very exercising and trying one; from thence we rode to Bart. 16th. Attended their meeting, it was on the whole, a season of favor. 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th. We were at West Sadsbury, Cambridge, West and East Caln meetings, at the latter of which, was a funeral; — the three last mentioned, open and satisfactory. Truth's testimony, although sharp and close, I thought was received with a good degree of openness. Oh, may it profit and quicken to more diligence.

21st. Rested at Downingtown, at the house of our dear friend, Nathan Sharpless. 22d. Was at meeting in this place, a deeply exercising and proving season to my poor mind. Oh, how dangerous it is for us to be settled on our lees, dwelling carelessly, and at ease in Zion.

23d, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th and 28th. Were at Bradford, Goshen, Westchester, Birmingham, Concord and Stanton meetings, some of which, were graciously owned by the Master of assemblies; Truth's testimony being exalted over the heads of its enemies, all power and praise be livingly ascribed unto Him alone, who only is worthy, forever and ever. From Stanton, we rode to Wilmington, and lodged at Samuel Canby's. 29th. Was at their first day morning meeting, in which, notwithstanding I had to suffer much deep inward exercise for a considerable part of the meeting, the doctrines of our holy Redeemer flowed freely — truth rising into dominion, over all dark and unbelieving spirits. After this meeting I could say, the Lord is my Helper, in Him will I rejoice, magnified be His

great name forever. We dined at S. C's., and having a satisfactory opportunity in his family, we left for Providence, which we reached that evening. 30th. Attended their Monthly Meeting here to-day, in which divine goodness was felt to be near unto a remnant, who appear to be rightly engaged to nourish and succour the immortal seed of life in their own hearts. From this place, we went to Chichester, and on the 31st, was at their meeting.

Eleventh mo. Thence took the following meetings, viz. Chester, Springfield, Middletown, Willistown, West-town School, and Newtown, some of them favored opportunities, for which the Lord be praised; thence we rode to Philadelphia, lodging at our dear friend, John Morton's, thence to Abington, and lodged at John Shoemaker's.

8th Attended the Select Quarterly Meeting of Abington, at Horsham, and 9th, the meeting for business. At this meeting, my mind was painfully exercised, under a sense of the unsoundness of some of its leading members, in the doctrines and principles of our holy profession;—my way was much shut up amongst them, for it frequently is the case, where hardness and unbelief are prevalent, that there is no openness for the Gospel of Christ Jesus to be preached. My sufferings were great in this place. Oh Lord, awake them, I humbly beseech thee, to a sense of their undone and lost condition, without a Saviour and holy advocate to plead their cause; for if they persist in this course, most assuredly, woe and misery will be their portion. After this meeting was over, we proceeded to Richland, where tarrying one night, we set out next day for Stroudsburgh, lodged that night in the town of Bethlehem, at a Moravian Inn, thence proceeded on our journey, and reached James Bell's in the afternoon. 13th. Attended their meeting in

this place ; the life of religion was low indeed. I apprehended that things were much out of order here.

14th. It being a stormy day, and we much unwell, kept house.

15th. We left here, and reached Mordecai Churchman's, at Easton, where we tarried the night. Next morning we had a solid and satisfactory opportunity in his family — we then left, and reached Richland. 17th. We attended their week day meeting in this place, in which darkness and death seemed to reign ; how hath the enemy prevailed, and been suffered to undermine and overthrow the faith of many of the professors of Truth to their great hurt and loss. I suffered the meeting through in silence, and then left them with a sorrowful heart.

18th. Rode to Gwynedd, and 19th, attended the meeting here, which was an open time. This passage of Scripture was presented to my mind with life and power, " I counsel thee to buy of me gold, tried in the fire, that thou may'st be rich," &c.

We next took meetings at Plymouth, Upper Dublin, Byberry, Abington and Germantown, in all which I was mercifully helped to declare the everlasting and saving truths of the Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, to the tendering of many hearts, notwithstanding I was made sensible that darkness and blindness had overtaken many ; even amongst the heads of the tribes, yet through holy help, Truth's blessed testimony, was raised into dominion over all opposition ; unto the Lord be ascribed all power, honor and praise. After the last mentioned meeting, we rode to Philadelphia, and on the 25th, rested at John Morton's.

26th. In the morning, was at Green Street meeting, where I was favored to set things home in a

pretty close searching manner, much to the relief of my own mind; — in the afternoon, at Twelfth Street — silent.

Made several visits on the 27th; and on the 28th rode seven miles to Darby, and attended their Monthly Meeting. It was a laborious one, yet I had secretly to rejoice in that I gave up to this service. Returned the same evening to Philadelphia.

29th. Rode to Abington, from thence, next day to Buckingham. 12th mo. 3d. Had a satisfactory meeting at Plumstead. 4th. Attended Solebury meeting, it being first day. It was large and favored, Truth being raised into a good degree of dominion over opposing spirits, for I had a sense given me that there were such present, as stood in opposition to the cross of Christ.

5th. Attended Buckingham Monthly Meeting, where I had close trying service, yet felt at the close of this meeting much inward relief. Oh Lord, my only Helper, preserve me in humility, and in reverent thankfulness, for great hath been thy mercy toward me. I had to rejoice, in believing, that in this meeting there is a little baptized remnant, who travail for the welfare and prosperity of Truth.

Next attended Solebury, Wrightstown, Newtown, Middletown, and the Falls' Monthly Meetings; in all which I was silent, except that at Wrightstown which was in some degree favored; but my lot in most of those above mentioned large Monthly Meetings, was to suffer with the tribulated deeply oppressed seed of the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Twelfth mo. 11th, and first of the week, was at Trenton, in New-Jersey, on our way home. Here we were helped to declare the doctrines of the blessed Truth, through the merciful condescension

of Him, without whom we can do nothing. From thence, we proceeded pretty directly towards New York, where we arrived the 13th, and lodged at Samuel Wood's. Left next morning, intending to get home as soon as we consistently could, having received accounts from there informing of my husband's indisposition. I was favored to reach my outward habitation the 21st of 12th month, after being absent three months, and attending upwards of sixty meetings; and although it was my lot to suffer deeply in many places, and to pass through trying baptisms, yet I find there is abundant cause to bless and adore the goodness and merciful kindness of the unfailing Shepherd of Israel to me-ward, in this journey, insomuch that I may adopt the language, "Return to the place of thy rest, O my soul; for the Lord, thy God hath dealt bountifully with thee."

I found my dear husband very unwell, with a cancer in the nose, which tumor had made its appearance before I left home, but had since made a rapid progress, so that the prospect looked truly discouraging, yet I believe that we both had to rejoice in that I had been enabled to perform this service, which I had long felt as a burthen upon me. I believe he bore my absence with christian resignation, but was thankful for my safe return to his assistance. He was confined through the winter and most of the following spring. Having made use of several severe applications to effect a cure, it was at length obtained, through the blessing of a kind and gracious Providence, who is indeed near unto all that call upon Him in uprightness of heart.

1826. I was favored to be at our Yearly Meeting this summer, and also in the course of this year, to attend all the meetings constituting our Quarterly Meeting. Some of them were indeed highly fa-

vored opportunities, in which Truth's testimony flowed freely ; the poor and needy were comforted and encouraged, the weak strengthened, the backslider and lukewarm admonished and reproved. In the performance of this requisition of duty, I felt the sweet reward of peace.

1827. During our absence in attending the Yearly Meeting this year, our little son Samuel, a child six years of age, while amusing himself in cutting a stick, happened to cut the ball of his eye, which proved very injurious to his sight, notwithstanding we did much for his help. He is now wholly deprived of the sight of one eye, and the other much weakened. Ah ! these are trials wisely calculated, and I do believe mercifully designed to shew us where our affections ought to be placed. O how vain and transitory are all human calculations ; nothing certain, in this uncertain and fluctuating world ; nothing sure to fix our hopes upon. He was a very promising, fine boy — had begun to go to school, and manifested great aptness for learning ; but now he is entirely deprived of this benefit. Yet if the minds of our dear children, can, through divine interposition, be preserved in innocence, and in the pure fear of the Lord, and patience and true resignation is abode in on our part, I comfortably believe that this afflictive dispensation will be blessed and sanctified unto us, through Him that hath loved us.

O gracious Father, and fountain of all our sure mercies, deal with me again and again, until all selfishness is rooted out of my heart ; — spare not, until all is freely given up to thy holy will and service. O leave me not, I pray thee, be thou my guide, counsellor and instructor, my strong and firm support, through every deep baptism and tribulation, thou mayest be pleased to permit.

Ninth mo. 2d. O Lord, marvellous hath been thy dealings with me, through unutterable love and mercy, vouchsafed; bow low, oh! my soul, and forever prostrate thyself at the footstool of a crucified Saviour, who alone hath redeemed, and can save thee out of all distress, and from all adversity, who only can preserve from the shafts and temptations of the wicked one, or shield us from a vain and delusive world. Thou Lord, art my Rock, my strength, and my salvation.

Having felt my mind drawn to visit some of our Eastern Quarterly Meetings, particularly Salem, Dover, and Falmouth, for some time past, and the subject reviving with weight, I concluded to open my prospect to Friends in our Monthly Meeting, which I did, and they united with me therein, and furnished me with a copy of a minute to that effect. I left home on the 10th of 9th month, my dear husband accompanying me. We reached Lynn the next day in the afternoon. 5th day, 13th. Attended their Monthly Meeting, which was an open favored opportunity. 7th day, 15th. Was at a meeting at Newbury, the spring of divine life was low at this place; too many are at ease, satisfying themselves with a name. O what will this effect for us — a name to live, yet to be found dead. First day, morning, at Amesbury, afternoon, at Seabrook — pretty open at the morning meeting, that at Seabrook, very trying. 5th day, 18th. Had a meeting at Epping, with Friends and others; truth seemed to be in a good degree, raised into dominion. 19th. Attended a small meeting at Lee, in which they were reminded that man can no more as man, preach the Gospel, than he can command the outward rain. We also had a satisfactory opportunity in the widow Cartland's family, where we lodged.

20th. Attended meeting to day at Meaderbor-

ough; a favored season, there seemed an openness to plead with the people. O may it be to profit.

22d. Had a meeting at New Durham, a low time. O, the suffering of the pure seed! how it is oppressed and borne down in many places, and in many hearts. O Lord, awaken all to the necessity of removing every obstruction, that it may spring up and prosper gloriously, is the breathing of my heart. First day, the 23d. Attended meeting at Dover; it was large, many not professing with us, being present — it was a season of divine favor and enlargement. I felt my mind engaged to enforce the necessity of that solemn injunction of our blessed Lord, "what I say unto you, I say unto all, *Watch*,"—for this as for every other favor, may all praise be forever ascribed unto Him, who is the blessed author of all good.

24th. Had a meeting at Rochester, which was to pretty good satisfaction, and 25th, another at Elliot, very small, yet in some good degree favored with the good presence. 26th. Attended Dover Monthly Meeting, in which my mind was opened and enlarged on the parable of the ten virgins, in rather a remarkable manner. O, holy Shepherd, thou didst go before, thou didst guide and instruct me in the deep mysteries of thy kingdom; unto thee, the Lord God and the Lamb, be ascribed all power, might, majesty and dominion, now and forever more.

27th. Attended an appointed meeting at a place called Oak-woods. 28th. Was at Berwick, Monthly Meeting, a deeply exercising and laborious season, yet no outward cause appeared manifest. I believe, that if a right concern, and living exercise of soul toward God, was but enough lived in and abode under, we should oftener experience the arising of divine life in our religious

assemblies, and feel its circulating influence to quicken and enliven our minds, to let go every cord that does not bind us, and draw us nearer to the spring, and fountain of divine life.

The following week we attended meetings as follows; on first day, both forenoon and afternoon, at Portland, then at Cape Elizabeth, Falmouth, Pownal, Durham, Windham and Gorham. Some of these, were open favored opportunities; particularly Falmouth and Pownal. O, that I may walk worthy of these great mercies. We next attended meetings at Limington, Parsonsfield, and the North and South meetings at Sandwich, in New Hampshire. These meetings were mostly laborious, trying seasons. Quicken us, O Lord, for thy mercies sake; for thy great name's sake redeem us out of the snares, temptations and delusions, of the grand deceiver of souls.

Tenth mo. 14th. First day of the week. Attended a meeting at Gilmanton, a precious opportunity indeed, light and life broke forth in a wonderful manner, and seemed to reign triumphant for a season, over all the powers of darkness; magnified over all be thy blessed power and goodness, O Lord, now, henceforth, and forever more, amen. 2d day, 15th. Attended a Monthly Meeting at Pittsfield. Things appeared to be much out of order in this place, and the discipline not enough put in force against disorderly walkers. Where our discipline is neglected, O what weakness follows; and where this is manifestly the case, it is evident to the discerning mind, that there is a cause — the love of the world, and things of time, and a desire after undue riches, sometimes take possession of the heart; then the desire after true holiness abates, and our zeal for the honor of God, and the promotion of His blessed cause of truth and righteous-

ness, waxeth cold, and a state of lukewarmness and cold indifferency ensues. I found it my place in this meeting, to bring to mind the necessity of having oil in our vessels with our lamps, seeing without this, we cannot obtain an admittance into the abodes of peace. 17th and 18th. Attended Salem Quarterly Meeting, held at Weare; I thought on the whole, it was a favored meeting. We thence took meetings at Henniker, Unity, Weare North Meeting, and Concord; most of which were satisfactory opportunities. First day, 28th. Attended meeting both forenoon and afternoon at Salem, on our way home; the parable of the marriage supper was presented and opened, the doctrines of the Gospel flowed freely, particularly in the morning. O Lord, grant that it may not be lost, for it was of thy rich mercy — and to thee be all praise given.

Tenth mo. 30th; 3d day. We arrived home to day, and found our family all well, except our dear little son, whose eyes still continue in a discouraging state.

In a grateful sense, O Lord, of thy tender mercies vouchsafed to me, an unworthy worm, whilst on this journey, my soul is bowed in reverent thankfulness, craving the continuation of thy Fatherly care and watchful Providence, to lead and direct me, and to protect from danger and all evil. O grant that thy preserving power may be over and round about, to keep me in a strict dependence on thee alone, with a single eye to the pointings of thy holy finger, for without thy blessed assistance, I can do nothing that will bring peace to my own mind, or promote thy precious cause on the earth.

In collecting the foregoing little scraps and minutes, which I have preserved from time to time, and (with the help of memory, particularly as it

respects the early part of my life,) throwing them together, I may acknowledge, that it affords me peace and satisfaction in proceeding thus far.

1828. This year, I went not much from home, except to attend our Yearly and Quarterly Meetings, and some adjacent meetings; being concerned diligently to attend our own, and was therein, at times favored to experience the arising of divine good.

Second mo. 2d. O Lord, I am oppressed, undertake for me; my burthen is heavy, mourning and lamentation cover my mind, because the comforter is afar off. He that only can relieve, is not witnessed to be near. Under a mournful sense of the prevalency of a spirit of lukewarmness, and a state of unconcernedness in many of our Society, who seem to be at ease in Zion, settled on their lees; my spirit is often bowed and plunged into deep baptism; my heart is pained within me, and my cry is raised unto the God and Father of all our sure mercies, that the professors of the blessed Truth, may be awakened to a sense of the importance of being what they profess to be; for "if the righteous scarcely be saved, where shall the ungodly and the sinner appear?" If those who are sincerely endeavoring to live godly, self-denying lives, submitting to the refining crucifying power of the cross of Jesus Christ in their hearts, are but scarcely saved from the wrath to come, what will be the end of all such as hold the truth in unrighteousness, satisfying themselves with a name to live, while they are dead — dead in trespasses and sins, fulfilling in themselves, the desires of a vain and fleshly mind. O, Lord God of Hosts arise, make bare thine holy arm of divine power, and yet plead with such — open the blind eye that it may yet see,

unstop the deaf ear that it may yet hear, and be willing to receive the glorious gospel invitation of the messenger of the everlasting covenant of life and of peace; and be made willing to submit to thy healing, cleansing, restoring and converting power, and be thereby made partakers of the joys of thy salvation. O Lord revive thy work in the midst of the years, (the years of mournful revolt,) even the work of righteousness in purity and simplicity, in meekness and in living faith, that faith which works by love to the purifying of the heart, from every defilement, both of flesh and spirit; even so, O Lord, if consistent with thy holy will, amen.

Second mo. 14th. I am this day, forty-nine years of age; my sun is on the decline, this I am made sensibly to realize in many respects; and in looking over the past leaves of my short life, my soul is humbled, both under a sense of the Lord's goodness and great condescension to me, a poor unworthy worm of the dust, as also a consideration of my unfaithfulness and long disobedience to my divine Master; and I felt a fervent desire and prayer raised in my heart this morning, to the great Father and fountain of all Good, that He would be graciously pleased, thoroughly to wash and cleanse me from all sin and iniquity, to blot out my transgressions, and remember them no more, and to enable me more and more to keep the watch, that the few remaining days of my life, may be more fully devoted and consecrated to serve Him.

O, Thou searcher of hearts, thou knowest my sincerity, make me altogether what thou would have me to be in thy sight; create in me a new heart, and renew a right spirit within me; discover more and more clearly by the light of thy dear Son, Christ Jesus our Lord, all the evil that may

yet be lurking in my breast. I am sensible, O gracious Father, that I have great need of being often washed and cleansed; and O, that I may often witness the renewings of the Holy Ghost, sent down from Heaven upon my heart, that by and through its baptizing influence, all may be consumed in me that obstructs my Heavenly course. Enable me, O! gracious God — thou who hast often in great mercy, made bare thine holy Arm of power for my help and deliverance from great distress, both inward and outward, so to run, as that I may obtain the prize — that no cloud, no fogs or mists may obstruct the beauty of a clear setting sun, however stormy or tempestuous in thy unsearchable wisdom my day may have been suffered to be. My trials, though many, O holy Father I ask not, I desire not to be released from, but in thy own time and way;

> But grant thy holy aid, thy strengthening power,
> To keep and guard me in the trying hour,
> Give patience and forbearance to my fainting soul
> When deeply tried, and when the billows roll.

Attended meeting to day; the Lord was pleased to manifest himself by the breaking of a little bread to the few present.

19th. My spirits low and drooping, fears within and trials without; but afflictions spring not out of the dust, neither trouble out of the ground. For I believe that He whose wisdom is incomprehensible to finite man, and his ways past finding out, well knoweth how, when and where, to dispense to each individual his proper and due share of these things: He best knoweth what is best suited to our peculiar state. Murmur not then O my soul at thine allotment, although it may seem to be severe, but trust in God and in His invincible arm of power, which is still stretched out in great kind-

ness to deliver and preserve all who rightly depend and lean thereon.

Seventh mo. 13th. Attended the meeting at Smith's Neck, a branch of our Monthly Meeting, which in the fore part was painfully distressing, but after patiently waiting for the arising of the word of life, Truth's blessed testimony was through Almighty help exalted over all; — blessed be his holy Name and power. How sorrowful it is when meetings and individuals are declining in the most important concerns, and suffer the things of this world to engross so much of their attention and affections as to unfit them for the solemn duty of performing acceptable worship unto God.

16th Attended a funeral to day which although deeply exercesing in the fore-part, proved through divine mercy to be a favored opportunity; the power of Truth being felt to be over all opposition; blessed be the name of the Lord.

20th. Our meeting was dull and heavy to-day, a thick cloud seemed to be over my mind, which has for sometime been my experience in our meeting; but I humbly trust that He who hath his way in the thick cloud will yet (as patience is abode in) cause the light to break forth, to the gladdening of the hearts of the upright and sincere.

23d. At our Monthly Meeting to-day, my mind was renewedly confirmed, that those, whose minds have been divinely illuminated, and have been mercifully permitted to taste, and to handle of the good word of life, but through unwatchfulness, have yielded to the seductions and temptations of the adversary of souls, and thereby lost their armor

and strength, cannot in their own way, or their own will and time, (however desirable it may be) know a going forth in the strength and beauty of an holy steadfastness in the blessed Truth as is in Jesus. O the great loss of such! how much to be deplored, and not to be regained but through deep baptisms, and a thorough reduction of self, in which such can have a true sight and sense of their condition — realize from whence they have fallen, and with humble repentance and self abasement abhor themselves as in dust and ashes. As this truly humbled state of mind becomes their experience, it would I have no doubt, be mercifully regarded; and I believe it possible for such to be renewedly appointed and re-anointed for the Lord's work: for He is indeed a long-suffering and gracious God. But no mixture will be acceptable to Him — the offering must be pure, without alloy.

First day 27th. Went in company with my dear husband to Allen's Neck, and attended their meeting, this also being a branch of our Monthly Meeting. Here, for a long season, silent suffering under much bodily weakness was my lot, but endeavoring to have my mind stayed on Him, who is the inexhaustible fountain of strength, I was mercifully favored with renewed ability, vocally to supplicate for an increase of faith, in the all sufficiency of the everlasting arm of divine power, even that which overcometh all weakness, and giveth the victory over death, hell and the grave. Magnified forever be thy blessed power O Lord, which at times worketh marvellously.

31st. At our week day meeting; in which though small, my mind was comforted in the belief that there would be preserved, a little remnant up

and down, which should be as the salt that retains its savor, notwithstanding the sorrowful, and so general declension of our society.

Eighth mo. 2d. Attended the funeral of an infant this afternoon, and thought the opportuity in some degree a favored one; howbeit, I lost my penny by not keeping sufficiently near to my divine Guide. It was in partaking of some wine and water before leaving the house, for which I felt condemned; and can say, I have no unity with the practice of drinking spirits, or even wine on such occasions.

3d. Sat in our own meeting in a poor distressed state of mind, mourning over my folly and inadvertancy. O Lord grant me forgiveness, be pleased to blot out mine iniquity, and wash me again and again, that I may be purged from my transgression, and made meet to serve thee with acceptance.

Thou knowest O righteous Father the many trials that attend my daily walk! how thickly spread on every hand! Thou knowest also my great weakness, — that I am but dust and can do nothing of myself; — help thou me, O everlasting Rock, my only refuge and shelter from the storm and tempest, my only Redeemer and supporter, in every trial and deep baptism, through which I may yet have to wade. O! Lord thou art mighty to save and able to deliver — this my soul knoweth from living experience.

1829. This year I was favored to attend our Yearly Meeting at Rhode-Island which was to me a season of deep suffering, and I believe it was felt to be so to all the livingly exercised. O the great need of keeping strictly on the watch with a single eye to the Truth as it is in Jesus, in which

only we can be preserved clear sighted, aud be qualified to discriminate between truth and error, either on the right hand or on the left, and thereby experience preservation from the snares of the subtle enemy. How great is the loss that hath been sustained for want of an abiding here, in the pure fear and counsel of the Holy head of the Church who hath said "without me ye can do nothing." O what can the wisdom and prudence of man do, in promoting the Lord's cause on the earth — seeing He will confound the wisdom of the wise, and bring to naught the understanding of the prudent. He remains to be jealous of His honor and will not give his praise to another. Great is the weight that resteth on the burden bearers, in this day of awful declension from primitive purity and simplicity, which so conspicuously shone forth in our worthy forefathers, and so beautifully adorned our high and holy profession. The true burden bearers according to the sense given me, are but few in number. O righteous Father hold these in thy holy hand, hide them from the wrath of the dragon as in the secret of thy pavilion, until the overflowing scourge be past. Preserve O Lord, thy righteous seed through every dispensation however painful, which thou in thy unfathomable wisdom may suffer to overtake them, for the refining and purifying of thy Church and people.

We had at this our annual meeting, the company of Thomas Shillitoe, and George and Ann Jones from Great Britain, whose company and Gospel labors were strengthening and confirming to a deeply tried remnant present.

Seventh mo. 2d. Attended our Quarterly Meeting held on Nantucket. It was a distressing season especially the meetings for business. O! how un-

like those precious opportunities, I thought, when our early Friends met together as with one concern and with one accord, in one place, to wait upon the Lord for the arising of that life, which is the crown of our assemblies. How were they melted and baptized together, drinking into the one Spirit, whereby their souls were refreshed and animated to run and not be weary, to walk and not faint. But alas! how dark and desolating is the effect of an anti-christian spirit, and how hath the spirit of the world taken hold of the minds of many professors to their great wounding, so that their love to God and his blessed cause hath waxed cold! For these things I weep and am in heaviness — great hath been the hidden secret travail of my soul before the Lord, that there might be an arising and shaking of ourselves from those defilements, and a coming out of and away from every thing that the Lord hath a controversy with.

Our dear Friends from Great Britian were also at this meeting, and faithfully discharged themselves, laboring honestly amongst us;— that their labors may prove successful is the prayer of my heart.

7th. Attended a funeral at our meeting house at Newtown, where the blessed truths of the everlasting gospel were livingly set forth;— all praise be forever ascribed unto Him who only is worthy.

19th. Attended the meeting in Smith's Neck, which was favored in a good degree with the divine presence, and under its precious influence Truth's testimony was exalted over all. Bow O my soul, in reverent thankfulness, and deep prostration before Him, who alone is found worthy to open the book, and to loose the seals thereof, and is eternally worthy of all praise, majesty and power, world without end, amen.

22d. Our Monthly Meeting to-day, was a memorable time. We had the company of several ministering Friends from neighboring Monthly Meetings. The Gospel of life and salvation was preached with a good degree of right authority; many states were spoken to with precision, and the pure witness reached; the mourners were comforted, the weak strengthened, the lukewarm and carnal professors aroused; the deceitful and hypocritical warned against holding the truth in unrighteousness;— and my desire is that it may be remembered to profit.

23d. O my soul! get thee to the watch tower, wait in all humility to hear the voice of the True Shepherd. Suffer nothing, O Lord that appertains to this lower world, to render me incapable of hearing thy most excellent voice, and of rightly discerning the comeliness of thy countenance. O holy Father, grant me if consistent with thy divine will, a quick perception of the subtle transformations of the serpent in all his shapes and designs, give me strength to combat, until I go hence; do with me as seemeth good unto thee, for thou art my life, my strength and preservation; be with me therefore my leader, counsellor and never failing helper.

Eighth mo. 2d. Yesterday at our own little meeting, we were favored with a renewed evidence of our heavenly Father's love, even to the humbling and contriting, and I believe to the fresh cementing of the hearts of a little remnant together, by that bond which is not an outward one: O Lord preserve thy wrestling children in heights, and in depths; keep them in the hour of temptation from the power of satan; for without thy holy help we

perish: enable us more and more to devote our all to thee — our strength, and the residue of our days.

Search my heart, O thou heart searching God, and spare not until all that is within me is made wholly conformable to thy blessed will; nothing short of thy presence O everlasting Father, will do; all else is vain and transient, but thou art a sure hiding place forever.

5th. & 6th. I attended Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting held at Portsmouth, although it was a deeply baptizing season to me, yet I thought the public opportunity for divine worship was through adorable mercy, a time of renewed favor. O Lord, in this day of perplexity, and treading down both of the law and the testimonies of thy Truth, remember I beseech thee, thy covenant with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and give not thine heritage wholly to reproach; but arise I pray thee, and make thyself known for our deliverance; — Thou who art mighty to save, and wonderful to redeem — Thou who hath cut Rahab, and wounded the dragon. Thou hast turned, and art still turning thine holy hand upon us as a people, in thy unsearchable wisdom, in order to purify and purge us from our filthiness. Enable us to endure thy chastening rod with holy humble patience, that our Zion may yet be redeemed out of, and cleansed from every pollution, and thus be prepared and made ready for the holy bridegroom of souls, that so she may arise and shine forth in ancient beauty and splendor. But Israel hath greatly revolted from thee, O Lord, and turned aside after vanities and lies. This complaint of the prophet, appears to me to be applicable in the present day, "The ox knoweth his owner, and the ass his master's crib; but Israel doth not know, my people doth not consider." Yet, O Lord, I beseech thee, in thine unmerited kindness and ten-

der mercy, visit again for these things, and correct us in mercy, and graciously spare the little remnant that have been made willing to go into captivity, yea, to follow thee unto suffering and death, for thy precious name and cause sake; and O, Thou merciful and long suffering God, gather home, I pray thee, if consistent with thy blessed will, the scattered and strayed sheep from thy fold: give no rest to their souls until they return to thee, the Ark of safety.

Ninth mo. 6th. Oh! the need of keeping low and humble, poor finite creatures as we are, altogether dependent on the mercy of a gracious God: it certainly behooves us to think lowly of ourselves, yea, and soberly, endeavoring to set the Lord always before our eyes, and to walk in his holy fear, seeking counsel of Him who is the wonderful counsellor; whose all-seeing eye is over us at all times. O Lord, preserve me humble, and make me more and more sensible of my dependent condition, for thou art my support and strength; without thy grace strengthening me, I can do nothing, and am nothing. O, be with thy church and people wherever scattered, strengthen and sustain them under every tribulation and baptism that may be allotted them; may thy cheering promises animate the weary traveller, and thy soul-enlivening presence satisfy at all times, the poor in spirit, and the broken in heart; for these, we trust thou wilt revive, these thou wilt strengthen, enabling them at seasons, to acknowledge with joy of heart, that "This is the Lord, we have waited for him, and he will save us; lo! this is our God, we will be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

Tenth mo. 11th. Having for some time felt my

mind drawn to visit the meetings of Friends in Rhode-Island, and a part of Smithfield Quarters; at our last Monthly Meeting, it became my concern to open my prospect to Friends, and obtained their sympathy and concurrence, certified by minute, and expect, if the Lord permit, to leave home to-morrow.

O Lord, be pleased to go along with us, our Light, our leader, and our preserver, our shield and strength, our bow and battle axe, a present helper in every needful time. Thou knowest the plungings and deep wadings of my spirit, thou knowest I have nothing of my own to depend on, that without thee I am poor, having no might nor strength but what thou art pleased to give, no staff, nor scrip, nor any change of garments, and most assuredly thou only canst availingly equip me, to make war in righteousness. O Lord, the day is dark, perplexity hath overtaken a deeply revolting and backsliding people, yet grant comfort and consolation to thine in heart, O thou who remainest a light to thy children, a strength to the poor, a refuge for the needy, and a strong tower in the day of trouble. Be with us therefore, O Lord God of Hosts, go before and lead the way, and of thy rich mercy grant a portion of thy all-sustaining power and presence, to support and bear us up under every fresh trial and conflict which may await or assail us, and I will follow thee (through thine own blessed assistance,) whithersoever thou art pleased to lead; and be thou round about, watch over and keep our families at home, and if consistent with thy holy will and wisdom, grant, that when our service is accomplished, we may be permitted to meet again, to the rejoicing, strengthening and encouraging one another, in all things pertaining to thy glorious kingdom, and our own eternal peace.

Tenth mo. 12th. First day afternoon, left home and reached Swanzey, where we appointed a meeting to be held next day. 13th. Attended meeting here, it was rather a laborious time, especially in the fore part, but toward the close I felt constrained vocally to supplicate, and thought I found near access to the Fountain of all good. Afternoon, rode to Warren, and 14th attended an appointed meeting there, which, though small, was yet a favored opportunity; the blessed truths of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ were set forth, I trust, in some degree of right authority; grant O Lord, that it may fasten as a nail in a sure place. Afternoon, rode back to Troy, [now Fall River.] 15th. Attended their week-day meeting, which was a baptizing heart tendering season, for which the Lord's name be praised.

We next took Berkley and Taunton meetings, in both which the spring of divine life was low, and things seemed rather discouraging; thence to Providence, and took lodgings at the house of our worthy friend and elder, Moses Brown, where we remained three days, except that we visited the Boarding School on Seventh day, and attended meeting on First-day morning in the town, and in the afternoon at the School. Moses was remarkably pleasant and agreeable in conversation, bright and lively in spirit, and I thought it a mercy that his life was thus prolonged; his counsel and advice being at this time much needed. The meeting at Providence I thought was graciously owned by the great Head of the Church, and ability was afforded to relieve my exercised mind amongst them.

From thence we took the following meetings, viz. Cranston, Coventry, Greenwich, Wickford, Tower Hill, South Kingstown, and Richmond,

some of which were divinely favored opportunities, and others deeply trying, that at Greenwich remarkably so, which I sat through in silence.

Second day, 26th. Attended South Kingstown Monthly Meeting, held at Hopkinton, which was in some degree favored with the reachings forth of Heavenly good. 27th. Attended their Select Preparative Meeting, which was small; I thought they appeared to be under a good concern and right engagement of mind: O Lord, strengthen them to hold on, and to hold out unto the end, that their reward may be sure unto them. We then proceeded to Plainfield, Conn., and was at their Preparative Meeting on the 30th, which was held nearly in silence, no way opening for much communication. We next attended meetings at Foster, Scituate, Burrilville, Douglass, Northbridge, and Uxbridge, in most of which my way was open, my mind being much enlarged in proclaiming the glad tidings of the Gospel, I humbly trust, under right direction. All praises be livingly ascribed unto Him who is everlastingly worthy.

First day, 9th of 11th mo. Attended meeting at Upper Smithfield, wherein I labored faithfully as ability was given — being led to speak of the sufferings of ancient Friends, on account of those precious testimonies which they were called to bear and maintain, and to contrast their day with ours, who profess to be their followers, and to show the great declension of our society from the simplicity, faith and faithfulness of our worthy forefathers; in all which I felt sweet peace, and a flow of gospel love to all both far and near: blessing and honor, glory and power be forever ascribed unto the Lord God and the Lamb, which was slain and

is alive, and ever liveth at the right hand of the Father who only is worthy.

10th. Had a meeting at Cumberland; a considerable number of Methodists being present, as we were informed; it was a memorable season. Bow low, O my soul, and forever bless and magnify the Lord's everlasting power, which is above every other power. 11th. Attended Lower Smithfield meeting, it was a truly distressing one to me, which I sat through very nearly in silence;—the Lord best knoweth how to feed his people.

I reached home the 12th of eleventh month, and found my dear husband and children well, which I esteemed a favor, having been absent from them thirty-one days, and attended twenty-six meetings; and have to acknowledge to the praise of Almighty goodness, that in the course of this short journey His everlasting arm of divine power has been graciously extended to sustain my drooping spirit, to help and to strengthen me for His own work. Of a truth He maketh the mountains of opposition to flow down at his presence, and the everlasting hills do bow before His awful majesty. Thou didst go before, and open the way, turning the darkness into light. Thou didst not fail to instruct, and to preserve me, even until now; magnified over all be thy glorious name and power forever.

Eleventh mo. 20th. Attended our select Preparative meeting, in which I sat under a sorrowful apprehension, that self had usurped the throne of our holy Head, Christ Jesus, who only is worthy to have the pre-eminence. Search me O Lord and know my heart, try me and know my thoughts, and if there be any wicked thing in me, of thy mercy do thou it away. I tremble for some amongst us; fears have taken hold of my mind,—

O grant that we may see, and be willing to see ourselves, as we are seen of thee, ever bearing in remembrance that after we have done that which was our duty to do, we are but unprofitable servants, and of ourselves can do nothing. The disciple is not above his Lord, neither the servant above his master. O the need of lowliness and humility of heart — grant O righteous Father that this may ever be the covering of my spirit.

Twelfth mo. Our Quarterly Meeting was largely attended; the meeting for Ministers and Elders was a trying season — O may the cause be searched out, may Jerusalem, arise and shake herself from every defilement, that she may yet be clothed upon with the beautiful garments of meekness and salvation. A solemn sense of our sad situation doth often cause me pain of heart and anguish of mind— I am covered with sorrow as with a mantle.

22d. Attended a meeting at Portsmouth, R. I., wherein I was concerned to bear testimony to the insufficiency of morality to save the soul from the wrath to come; and to show that nothing short of experiencing the new birth, being born of the incorruptible Seed and Word of God, that liveth and abideth forever, can effect our redemption out of the fallen state which we are in by nature.

27th. At our own little meeting to-day, my mouth was opened in the ministry, it being the first time in this way since my return from my late visit.

I have had secretly and silently to mourn over the Lord's heritage, fearing at times, lest it should be altogether given to reproach. But through mercy, a grain of faith hath been extended, so that I believe a remnant will be brought through the siege, who will have a song of deliverance to sing

unto the Captain of their soul's salvation. May these keep low and humble in every movement.

30th. O gracious God, preserve me from the whisperings of Satan — from fears within, and tumults without. O Rock of my salvation, my shield and buckler, and only sure defence, suffer me not to swerve to the right hand or to the left, but hold me, keep me in thy holy hand forever. Thou hast been my strength and firm support all my life long. Thou hast brought me through many trials and deep distresses, many painful conflicts, both of body and spirit, even when death appeared near, and the grave seemed ready to receive me; then didst thou make bare thy holy Arm of divine and matchless power for my deliverance, that I might declare of thy goodness and unfailing mercy, and make known thy righteous judgments. O holy Father forsake me not in this season of distress, when our city is compassed about with many enemies, her walls broken down and her gates burned with fire, but mercifully condescend to enable me rightly to distinguish between that which is begotten of Thee — the holy just and pure seed of divine life, and that which is from a contrary source. Thou knowest that above all things I desire to be found pressing forward in the strait and holy way, walking in thy pure fear and divine counsel — for out of this I find no true enjoyment — all else leaves but a sting. But in this my soul doth rejoice that with thee there is fulness of joy, and at thy right hand are pleasures forevermore.

First mo. 1st. 1830. Attended the funeral of Prince Wing, a worthy Friend and Elder, belonging to Westport Monthly Meeting; a large concourse of people was collected on the occasion, and opportunity was furnished to declare Truth's testi-

mony amongst them, and the doctrines of the gospel were, I trust, livingly set forth to the praise of Him whose is the work, and whose is the power and dominion forever.

Second mo. 19th. Yesterday at our little meeting, I felt my mind comforted, with a renewed evidence that it is not a vain thing to wait upon the Lord, although He may for wise purposes seem to delay his coming; being much confirmed in the belief, that His time is always the best. Of this, I had a little to communicate, and felt peace therein.

Having felt the spring of gospel ministry to be much shut up for some weeks, I am abundantly confirmed in this, that it is our great interest strictly to attend to the shuttings, as well as to the openings of the seals. O! that all who minister before the Lord, may be especially careful of kindling a fire and warming themselves by their own sparks; seeing the consequences are truly awful. Oh Lord, preserve me, both on the right hand and on the left, from the temptations of Satan in seasons of poverty and inward want, and also in those of divine favor and enlargement of heart. Then, O gracious God, cause me to know mine end, and the measure of my days, and how frail I am — poor dust and ashes. Thou only art the fountain from which all and every good proceedeth.

21st. The burial of an aged Friend took place at our meeting to-day. A very mixed assemblage of people were present; nevertheless it pleased the blessed Author of all good, to raise me up in testimony to the exaltation of His glorious Truth, as from the depths of weakness, poverty and distress; my very soul having been of late plunged into deep baptisms, and under as sore a conflict of spirit, I think I may say, as I ever witnessed. But in this

meeting, Truth reigned over all, at least for a season, triumphing over all the powers of darkness. O! my soul hath renewed cause to say from living experience, the Lord God of Hosts remaineth to be the present Helper of his people; — blessed be his holy Name and power for this and for every other of his mercies, saith my soul.

22d. Weak and feeble in body, yet peaceful and quiet in mind, fully believing the superintending care of an all wise and watchful Providence is over and round about me, and that He will enable me to perform all that He may be pleased to require at my hand. Trust in the Lord at all times, O my soul! for in the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength.

Third mo. 22d. It hath appeared to me of late, on taking a solemn view of the situation of the foremost ranks in our Society, that our standing is indeed comparable to that which John in the Revelations saw, even a sea of glass mingled with fire. O! how awfully precarious; how brittle the glass! how destructive the fire! the heat of creaturely warmth and imagination. O Lord, I humbly beseech thee of thy mercy, quicken us to see the danger that awaits us, if in any degree thy pure fear and holy counsel is departed from, and we become wise in our own eyes, and prudent in our own conceit. O! grant that our spiritual eye may be renewedly anointed, and enlightened by thy divine power, that we may discern the beast and false prophet, under whatever form he may appear to deceive, or to ensnare. O make bare thine holy Arm, thou who didst cut Rahab and wound the dragon; for unless thou art pleased to undertake for us, and keep us by thine own preserving power, we shall fall by the hand of a cruel enemy, who hath already encroached upon our precious heritage,

and hath spoiled some of our choice plants, and marred some noble vines. But, O Lord, thou art omnipotent! Thou canst turn back the overflowing scourge, and at thy command, this sea of difficulties shall flee away and Jordan's waves be driven back.

Third mo. 31st. Attended our Select Quarterly Meeting which was exceedingly trying. There is manifestly that amongst us which has not its origin in the pure simplicity of the unchangeable Truth, but feeds on that which is of another nature and kind, being vainly puffed up, and high in conceit of itself; whereas Truth is simple and lowly, and only flourishes and grows in the humble self abased heart, the heart that is reduced and brought down as into the valley of true and unfeigned humiliation; a state wherein it has nothing to rejoice in, but the mercy of God, through Jesus Christ our blessed Redeemer.

Next day our Quarterly Meeting for the members at large, was held; the meeting for worship was a quiet and solid opportunity —that for business, very exercising. O, how hard for the creaturely part in us to be still and in subjection. Great wisdom would it be for us, to do nothing where we have nothing to do. O Lord, enable me patiently to suffer in secret and in silence, all the days of my life, if it be thy blessed will, rather than to counteract the charge given to the daughters of Jerusalem, by stirring up or kindling a fire, and warming myself with sparks which are but my own; for I have no belief that that which comes not from Thee, can gather to thee, neither that thou wilt give thy praise unto another, nor thy glory to graven images.

Fourth mo. 11th. My health rather feeble, and

my provision, inward poverty, which I have much desired to be strengthened to endure the Master's full time, not at all doubting, but that He, who deigns to bless the provision of Zion, and to satisfy her poor with bread, will, as this dispensation is rightly abode under, yet cause the tongue of the dumb to speak forth His praises, and the thirsty land to become as springs of water.

15th. This day at our own little meeting, my mind was favored with fresh encouragement, from the feeling evidence that divine goodness was near. I had to speak of the Lord's merciful dealing with His creature man; how that all his dispensations, however afflicting they may seem to us, are graciously designed to purify and to cleanse our hearts, and to draw us nearer to Himself; it was indeed a season of favor to us, and peculiarly so to me, having been for some weeks mostly shut up as to words in our meetings; but I do not repine at this, believing that He hath a gracious purpose in all He does, and that my stripping, proving seasons, will, if the fault be not my own, work together for my furtherance in the way of life and salvation.

18th. We were favored at our meeting to-day, to rejoice in Him, who lives forever and ever, blessed and praised be His holy Name, saith my soul.

Fifth mo. 2d. Attended Long Plain meeting, which was to me, painful and distressing, nevertheless, I had a testimony amongst them, which to the deceitful, hypocritical, and self-justifying professors, was close and searching, but to the mourners in Zion encouragement was afforded — blessed be the Lord, who alone is our helper. O Lord God of Hosts, send us help from thy holy sanctuary; O send forth thy light and thy Truth, and therewith search the tabernacle of Jacob, even

family by family, and individual by individual; the husbands apart and the wives apart, that every root and seed of the wicked one, may be seen and detected by thy heart searching power, however, it may be speciously veiled or masked. Enlighten, I beseech thee, O holy One, those whose eyes through self love are waxed dim, and cause thy people more and more to see the many heads and horns of that monster Self, who hath slain many thousands; self love, self will, self righteousness, self reputation and self seeking must be slain on the cross, death must pass on all that appertains to self, before we can live unto Christ Jesus, who is our light and our life. O, holy Father, have mercy upon thy people, and spare thine heritage from reproach.

Sixth mo. 6th. O Lord, make bare thine holy arm of power for my support, and preserve me from the power of the enemy; keep my soul near unto thee, the only place of safety, O fountain of everlasting love; that so in heights, and in depths, in sufferings and aboundings, my strong hold may be on that Rock which is immovable, and into which no shaft of the enemy can enter. Unworthy of the least of thy mercies as I am, yet hast thou graciously condescended once more to lift my head above the waters, and to open the way for some relief in our meeting to day, which is cause of renewed thankfulness of heart unto thee, the eternal Author of all our blessings.

27th. O Lord, enable me to resign all into thy holy hand; body, soul, and spirit, for Thou only art, and ever hast been, the hiding place and sure refuge from the storms and tempests which await and assail us, in this tribulated scene. O, gracious Father, thou only knowest the inward exercises and deep plungings of my poor mind, under the weight of

apprehended duty. I pray thee to be near, to bear up and support me, that my faith fail not. O, strengthen the little grain remaining, that through thy blessed assistance, I may be enabled to press forward through every besetment, both within and without, in the way thou art pleased to direct.

28th. Search me O Lord, and know my heart, try me and know my thoughts, and if there be any wicked thing in me, of thy mercy purge it away, wash me and cleanse me by the refining operations of thy power — the renewings of the Holy Ghost upon my heart; but take not thy Holy Spirit from me, for when thou art absent, thou who art indeed more excellent than the mountains of prey, I find no comfort nor satisfaction in any thing which this world can afford; but all true enjoyment is fled, all is but vanity without thy cheering, soul sustaining presence. Thou hast seen meet to try me with poverty, and to feed me with the bread of adversity for a long season, nevertheless I will still trust in thee, for of a truth thy compassion is very great, and thy mercies fail not. Thou woundest but to heal, thou killest but to make alive; therefore I beseech thee O Father of mercy, preserve me in humble patience until thou art pleased to unveil thy countenance, and shine upon my dwelling, to the consolation of thy poor dependent child, whose lot it is often secretly to weep as between the porch and the altar, crying — spare thy people, O Lord, and give not thine heritage to reproach. I sat in meeting to-day as with a seal upon my lips, not daring to form to myself an image either in the likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or in the earth beneath, however great the expectations of the people might be, and however as a fool I might appear; fully believing that no sacrifice will be acceptable to the Lord

but that which is of his own preparing. O gracious holy Father, enable me to endure the night of thy absence, and strengthen me to keep inward, whether for a longer or a shorter season, that when it shall please thee to appear, I may be found worthy to appear with thee, to the honor of thy most excellent name.

Seventh mo. 21st. O Lord, I will bless and extol thy holy name forever, for thou art good ; — thou hast been mindful of me when deeply tried and tossed as on the mighty ocean ; thou hast strengthened my hope and confirmed my faith in thee, who art the Lord omnipotent. O preserve me in thy holy fear and counsel ; keep me low and humble before thee, O Shepherd of Israel.

28th. To-day at our Monthly Meeting we were favored to partake of heavenly refreshment ; bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not his benefits.

Eighth mo. 26th. The present is a season of deep humiliation, self abasement and close inward conflict, graciously designed (I believe) to promote and further the work of purification in my heart. Grant, O righteous Father, that it may not pass unimproved.

27th. O let judgment run down as waters and righteousness as a mighty stream, that judgment may pass over all the unclean, and all the dregs of trangressing nature may be swept and washed away in the fountain and boundless ocean of divine love and mercy, through faith in the efficacious atoning blood of Jesus Christ my blessed and holy Redeemer ; that righteousness may indeed become the girdle of my loins, and faithfulness the girdle of my reins.

Ninth mo. 2d. I am just emerging from a distressing sickness with which I have been confined

for nearly three weeks, and for a few days was doubtful of recovering from it, yet it has pleased my heavenly Father so far to restore me, as that I am enabled through this medium to commemorate His great mercy, and tender loving kindness, vouchsafed in this season of trial, to me an unworthy worm of the dust. May I never forget His condescending goodness, who by His eternal arm of divine power sustained my soul in the depths of distress; but reverently bow before Him who is the great I AM, the first and the last, prostrating myself at His feet, and forever acknowledging that I am a debtor to His boundless mercy through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Keep silence before Him, O all flesh, — O Lord subject and subdue all my heart, my thoughts, words, deeds, and desires, and bring them into a conformity to thy divine will. For thou hast of thy free mercy taught and shown me that the creature must be still, in order rightly to understand thy divine law and to witness a qualification to obey its sacred injunctions.

Be still and know that I am God! — the Lord of Hosts, the King of glory, — the Lord mighty in battle, — the Branch of righteousness, — the root and offspring of David, — the bright and morning star — the foundation and corner stone of the saints' faith and eternal hope of salvation — Elect and precious unto all that believe — the Wonderful Counseller, — the mighty God, — the everlasting Father — the Prince of peace, of the increase of whose government and peace there shall be no end; — the everlasting Shepherd and holy bridegroom of souls; the promised Seed and Messiah — who trod the wine-press alone, and no man stood with Him, — who is clothed with a vesture dipped in blood, and His name is called the Word of God; who rules

the nations with a rod of iron, for He is King of kings and Lord of lords, — and hath a sword girded upon his thigh ; the Lion of the tribe of Judah ; the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world ; who is the propitiaton for the sins of the whole world, our advocate, intercessor and mediator ; yea, the blessed author and finisher of the saints' faith, even the salvation of their souls. The Immanuel, God with us, who was miraculously conceived of the Holy Ghost and born of the blessed virgin—suffered without the gates of Jerusalem, was buried and rose again the third day, and is ascended up into heaven where he sitteth at the right of the Majesty on high making intercession for us. Rejoice, O ye Heavens, and shout for joy ye inhabitants of the earth, for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth and hath condescended to become our Leader and our Way — a Light to enlighten our dark path through this thorny maze — a Saviour to save us out of all our trouble.

Ninth mo. 5th. Oh! my heavenly Father, do not desert me in this state of weakness and deep suffering, but be thou pleased to be graciously near, to preserve me from the snares and temptations of the wicked one, strengthen me to resist until I die ; bow my heart, and contrite my spirit before thee, O thou who hast in a wonderful manner, condescended to be my merciful deliverer and redeemer, out of the pit of pollution. Support my soul in every season of trial and conflict, for thou art my alone hope and defence, thou hast been my Guide, my morning star, who did, in infinite kindness enlighten my infant understanding to see the awful consequences of continuing in a state of alienation from thee, and to see the necessity of repentance, and amendment of life, through faith in the atoning

blood of the Lamb of God, and obedience unto the manifestations of the holy Spirit in my heart. And when I strayed from thy safe guidance, like a good shepherd and as a tender father, thou didst not fail to visit me with thy rod, thy fatherly chastisements in love, and to bring me back into thy holy fear; a place of safety. O Lord, thy goodness hath followed me all my life long; let thy preserving power be over and round about, to protect and defend me from all danger, that as thou hast deigned to be my morning light, so thou mayest be pleased to be my evening song.

15th. I still remain feeble in body, yet have rode half a mile this morning, for the benefit of the air, which is truly reviving.

O, thou gracious keeper and protector of thy children, preserve me from the snares of the old deceiver, who as a twining serpent is lurking about secretly to ensnare, and draw me into that which will assuredly bring distress and sorrow of heart. I am weak and frail, and without thee can do nothing; but thy grace is sufficient for all things. Enable me, holy Father, to set a double guard at the door of my lips, for O the unruliness of the tongue! how hard to be kept in subjection to thy holy cross. Well might the holy Apostle say, if any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body. I am deeply sensible of the need of keeping a watch over my words as well as actions, humbly craving thy divine aid and preserving care over me, knowing indeed, from living experience, that except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain.

16th. Reading in the Bible to-day, I was particularly struck with a passage in the first epistle of Paul to the Thessalonians, 3d chapter, 12th and 13th verses, "And the Lord make you to increase

"and abound in love one toward another, and to-
"ward all men, even as we do toward you; to
"the end he may establish your hearts unblame-
"able in holiness before God, even our Father, at
"the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his
"Saints." O the excellency of that love with which the mind of that holy man of God was fraught. How fervent his entreaties and supplications for their steadfast abidance in, and firm obedience to that faith, which they had been made partakers of, even that which works by love, to the purifying of the heart from all dead works, and from all unrighteousness, that nothing might be suffered to turn them aside therefrom, and beguile them of the reward of sweet peace. O that this pure and precious badge of discipleship may increase, and abound more and more in my heart, and in the hearts of my dear brethren and sisters in religious profession. For great is the want of more of this pure genuine gospel love amongst us, which would assuredly qualify us to submit one unto another in love, in honor prefering one another, for Christ's sake, who so loved us that He laid down his precious life for our sakes that we should not henceforth live unto ourselves, but unto Him who died for us and rose again.

O that there might be no self-seeking amongst us, but that every germ of self-love and self-will might be eradicated from our hearts, and we laid low, even in the dust, under an humbling sense of our entire dependence, and utter inability to do any good thing without the help of the Holy Spirit; and of our unworthiness of the least of all the mercies of our heavenly Father; then I believe the glory of the Lord would shine upon us, and we should again witness the lifting up of the light of His countenance upon us, and feel his supporting

presence to be near, and round about us, even in our solemn assemblies, to the rejoicing and gladdening the hearts of the upright and sincere, even as it was wont to be, in the gathered assemblies of our worthy predecessors. O that our eye and expectation may be wholly fixed on thee, only seeking to promote thy glory O Lord,and to advance thy blessed Kingdom of righteousness and peace. Then, and not till then, can we repose ourselves in confidence under the shadow of thy holy wing.

17th. I do not feel able to attend our select preparative meeting which is held to-day, the distance being four miles; but I desire that the good presence of the Lord may be felt amongst them, and his holy power prevail over all opposition, that the hearts of the faithful may be renewedly strengthened and replenished, as with a crumb of that bread which is truly nourishing to the hungry and fainting soul. O Lord forsake not thine heritage, but graciously condescend to remember thy wrestling seed. For verily thou hast a seed, although it may be very small; a little remnant that are seeking after thee, that are preferring the way of Zion, to any other consideration. May thy compassionate regard be unto this little scattered seed, wherever it may be found in the earth; O shield them by thy invincible arm of divine power in every trial and proving conflict. And grant, O holy Father, that all who have departed from thy divine Truth may yet see and understand their errors — may see the snares of the enemy and escape his wiles. If consistent with thy pure wisdom, cause them to know their transgressions, and understand their wrong, while repentance may be had, and reconciliation is offered.

20th. Many are the afflictions which await us in this probationary state, much exercise and concern

attend our minds on various accounts, a continual watching and fasting is necessary against our potent enemy, lest he get any advantage over us, by our yielding to the manifold temptations which he is continually casting into our hearts. Well may it be said that the christian's life is a continual warfare, and we have great need of being often engaged in prayer and supplication, to the God and Father of all our sure mercies, for the strength and assistance of His holy spirit, to enable us to preserve a conscience void of offence towards God and man.

22d. About this time I had expected to leave home; having for some length of time had a prospect of making a religious visit to Friends of Purchase, Ninepartners, and Stanford Quarterly Meetings in New-York, also some other meetings adjacent, and obtained certificates of concurrence from our Monthly and Quarterly Meetings on that account; but an all-wise Providence hath seen meet to dispose of me otherwise. It hath seemed good unto Him, the blessed author of *all* good, to visit me with sickness, whereby I have been confined for nearly two months; by which I have been reduced and brought very low, when I had to enter into a close examination and scrutiny of the past, and, in an especial manner to inspect the moving principle of this my intended journey, and the cause of my being so suddenly prevented. I feared lest I might have been mistaken; but trying the fleece both wet and dry, I could not find but as far as I have gone, the steps I have taken, have been in obedience to my heavenly Father's will; whose undoubted right it is to lead forward as far as He pleases, and to stay us when and where He pleases, and in what way may best suit His wisdom, which is infinite and unsearchable; and through divine

favor it has settled peacefully on my mind, feeling at this time submission to His holy will.

I think I can of a truth say, that nothing of a like nature, had ever been submitted to more in the Cross to my own will, than to give up to perform this visit, for several causes, one of which was my very slender health. I was ready at times to conclude that I could not endure the traveling and consequent exercises of such a journey, the grand enemy suggesting that if I left my home I should never return to it; yet I could find no peace in turning from the subject, for it grew more and more weighty upon my spirit, so that after wading through many deep baptisms, and much close exercise, I was enabled through holy help, to cast all my concern upon Him who alone can preserve us; and to surrender up all into his holy hand; body, soul and spirit, in which I felt and still feel peace; not knowing whether the service will ever be performed by me or not, feeling the burthen at present to be much taken from off my mind. But O righteous Father, if thou shouldest in thy inscrutable wisdom see meet to restore me to my wonted state of health, and art pleased to renew the concern in the clearness of gospel light, thine handmaid will run at thy command without gainsaying. O thou great and mighty one, thou canst, and thou wilt send by whom thou wilt; the work is thine, and thou alone canst prosper it. I am fully content to be thy servant; O enable me to serve thee faithfully unto the day of my dissolution, in uprightness of heart, and in thy pure fear, even that which keepeth clean, and purifieth the heart from all that is obnoxious in thy holy presence;— then in doing or suffering, in abounding or in abasement, all will be well, and will tend to thy glory, and to the peace of mine own soul.

23d. Attended the funeral of a pious friend and neighbor, in which I had a short testimony to bear, it being the first meeting I have attended since my late indisposition.

24th. Weak and feeble in body, and humbly prostrate in soul, feeling a lively sense of the gracious and merciful dealings of the Lord with me, in that He condescended to visit me in the morning of my day, and hath in unmerited mercy continued the extension of His divine care and Providence over me even until now. O my blessed Saviour, be thou pleased still to be near, and enable me by thy grace, to do my days' work in the day time. O renew my hope, my strength, and confidence in thee, thou almighty helper, that all which thou requirest may be done according to thy holy will; for thou only art my strength, my buckler and my shield, yea, my alone hope of salvation.

30th. Attended our own meeting at Newtown, it being the first time since my recent illness. It was small, and the forepart painfully laborious, yet our holy Shepherd was mindful of us in the extending of his gathering arm to such as had turned from the way of truth. O! His unfailing mercy, how great to the children of men! yea, exceeding great; so indeed it appeared to me to-day, as well as at many other seasons.

Tenth mo. 4th. Yesterday at meeting my mind was led to contrast the situation of the wicked with that of the righteous, in an especial manner in seasons of trouble and distress — when with an holy confidence the upright and humbly confiding heart can intercede for, and will most assuredly obtain in the Lord's time, deliverance out of all its afflictions; but what refuge have those to flee to,

who are rebellious, and will not obey his divine call, to forsake their wicked ways and their unrighteous doings, and to return to the Lord who will have mercy, and will abundantly pardon the truly penitent. The meeting was solemn, and a favored season.

24th. (First day.) Attended New Bedford meeting to my own satisfaction, experiencing divine help to be graciously afforded — for which I desire to be truly thankful.

Eleventh mo. 7th. I may now remark, that within four months I have lost a beloved brother and sister, which I trust has been a fresh incitement to diligence in making the best improvement of my precious time. May I be enabled through thy blessed aid, O almighty Helper, so to occupy in thy holy fear, as that at thy coming I may be prepared to hear the joyful welcome, of "Come ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world."

I attended the funeral of my sister; it was indeed a solemn and interesting opportunity. My heart was for sometime like a vessel that wanted vent, but the Lord was pleased in His own time to open the way for my relief, giving me to bear amongst my dear relatives and former neighbors an heart searching and powerful testimony to the glory of his own grace. Forget not, O my soul, the goodness of thy God in the day of deep distress, but bless and magnify His holy name and power forever. In the evening we (the remaining part of our family) also had a religious opportunity together, which was a favored season: O that it may be remembered by us all to profit.

16th. Grant me patience and strength, O Lord, to endure whatever trial thou mayest

permit to overtake me; enable me to resign up all to thee. Thou knowest best what is best for me,—I humbly trust thou wilt feed me with that food which is most convenient for me. I desire to have no will of my own, but that thy blessed will may be done in by and through me, which will prove my purification, sanctification and eternal redemption, from all that would separate from thee. Thou knowest holy Father my daily need, supply my wants in thy own way and time, and through thy blessed aid I hope to be content therewith.

Twelfth mo. 5th. Last fourth and fifth days our Quarterly Meeting was held at New Bedford, which I attended under a deep sense of sorrow, on account of the trying state of things amongst us; I sensibly felt the force of the language of the Prophet when he said, "I was bowed down at the hearing of it; I was dismayed at the seeing of it." I am abundantly convinced that humility is the only safe ground for us to keep upon, that it best becomes poor finite, short sighted and frail mortals, to lay low as in the dust; for what are we? Entirely dependent, having no might, nor strength, but must forever acknowledge that from the Lord cometh all our help; who is ever near to assist all that are of a truly humble and contrite heart.

O Lord, when wilt thou be pleased to arise and scatter thine enemies, and whatever obstructs the coming of thy blessed kingdom in the hearts of the children of men? Bring down every high thought and lay low every exalted imagination, that we may all come into a state in which thou wilt deign to teach and lead us, to keep and instruct us, and to feed us with the bread and water

of life. Enable me to watch and wait daily at thy feet even unto prayer, for many temptations are spread around, and I am but as a child; yet in this will I rejoice and be glad, that thou art the strength of the poor and needy, their succorer, and their Saviour out of all their distresses.

13th. For some days past my wadings have been deep, my trials keen, though mostly inward; but the cup which my heavenly Father hath prepared for me shall I not drink? Yea, I desire through divine assistance to receive it joyfully, for I do know experimentally that often is contained in the bitter potion, that which is truly healing and strengthening — a salutary balsam tending to bind up and restore to our wonted liveliness and activity.

I am sometimes ready to fear lest the enemy of all good should prevail over me. I feel so poor, weak, and destitute of that which alone is good, that were it not for the revival of a little hope now and then, which is as a stay to my poor mind amidst its various tossings, and as a grain of faith which removes obstacles out of the way, I should be ready to faint. But blessed be the God and Father of all our sure mercies, I believe he is nearer in such seasons of painful desertion than we often apprehend, as He is at times pleased unexpectedly to arise and by His own right hand of power to scatter and disperse every cloud, and to manifest His mercy and loving kindness with great clearness, which, blessed be his Holy name, was in a good degree the case in our meeting yesterday. There is abundant cause humbly to wait for, and to trust in Him who is Lord over all, worthy forever and forever more of all praise.

First month, 5th, 1831. O Thou, who givest

unto all men liberally, wisdom and faith that ask it of thee in humble sincerity of heart, be pleased to look down upon me, an unworthy child, and of thy mercy grant me a portion of true and living faith, that I may thereby be enabled availingly to intercede for the preservation both of my own soul, and of my dear family. O Thou who art the strength of my life, my only rock of defence, I beseech thee of thine unmerited mercy, keep my dear children out of the snares of the wicked one, and preserve them out of the temptations and delusions of a vain world. O be thou with them and visit their tender minds with thy light and thy truth. O show unto them the exceeding sinfulness of sin, enable them and strengthen them to bear thy holy cross in the morning of their day; to despise the shame, keeping a single eye to the recompense of reward. It is the desire of my heart that they may be thine, in deed and in truth, wholly devoted to serve thee and to confess thee before men, in this day wherein many even in our Society, have degenerated from the pure principles and precious testimonies of our worthy predecessors. O blessed Jesus, the author of the saints' faith, hope and salvation, preserve them in thy fear and holy counsel, suffer them to find no peace, but in obedience to thy pure truth, that it may be well with them both here and hereafter.

8th. Although in the allwise ordering of a gracious Providence, I am rarely led to walk on high ground, but much more often to sit in low places, as with my mouth in the dust, yet I humbly trust that He whose I am, and whom I wish to serve with all reverence, will mercifully deign to receive me at last to a mansion of rest and peace: this is all I desire or can ask. Thou only knowest, O

Lord, the travail, the exercise, and the panting of my heart to know a purified and sanctified state, redeemed out of all and from all, that would rob me of this precious hope. I have nothing to boast of, or to glory in, but my manifold weaknesses and infirmities, which are both of body and mind; but thou art a gracious and merciful high priest touched with a feeling of our infirmities, ever ready to compassionate our low estate, to help us and strengthen our faith and renew our confidence in Thee, the lifter up of those that are cast down, and a present help in every time of need.

12th. Lord, I am not mine own; am I not bought with a price? yea, verily, and that not with silver or gold which perisheth, but with the precious blood of the Lamb of God which taketh away the sin of the world. O then suffer not my heart to be divided or engrossed with the things of time and sense, whereby my affections may be imperceptibly drawn from thee; but enable me O Thou who art clothed with power and might, so to watch and pray continually, as that I may experience preservation out of all the snares of my potent enemy, and from all evil both on the right hand and on the left. Thou knowest the secret prayer of my heart to be more fully and faithfully devoted to thy service — the spirit truly is willing but the flesh is weak. Strengthen thou me holy Father, and condescend to lead and instruct me, and I will obey; through divine grace I will surrender all into thy holy hand, desiring that thy blessed will may be accomplished in and by me, a poor worm.

16th. Not able to attend meeting to-day, on account of a violent storm of snow and wind, yet under an humiliating sense of the great goodness of him who controlleth the winds and the waves, and

setteth unto them their bounds, I trust I can thankfully acknowledge and commemorate His manifold mercies and reverently desire to praise Him with a pure heart, and to exalt His name with sanctified lips; for He hath been the preserver and sustainer of my life.

The poor and destitute have been brought to my remembrance with feelings of pity and compassion; O that my heart may ever be open and tender toward these.

30th. I have missed several meetings of late both on account of the difficulty of travelling and indisposition of body. Feel low and deserted, yet trust I shall not be utterly forsaken of the sure Helper of the helpless and needy. O Lord let not these afflictions which I do indeed esteem as mercies, be lost upon me, but enable me so to receive and acknowledge them in humble submission, as that they may be graciously sanctified to my soul. O how precious is the language, "Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth." O how necessary are these refining seasons, these purifying baptisms, in order to keep us low and humble, to keep clean our hearts in the divine sight. I know they have been profitable to me, and productive of solid good; so that I can hail them as messengers fraught with divine love to my soul.

Second mo. 6th. A jealousy sometimes pervades my mind lest I am too much afraid of suffering. I know it will not do to think too much of these poor bodies; — it is meet that we should be willing to suffer for our blessed Redeemer's sake, even unto death. These are His words, "He that

findeth his life shall lose it : and he that loseth his life for my sake shall find it." O Almighty Helper, suffer not the enemy to gain any advantage over my weakness, but be mercifully pleased to strengthen and enable me to hold out, and to persevere unto the end, through every discouragement, most assuredly believing that thy grace is sufficient to make us more than conquerors over all trials and temptations, or any other thing that may intervene to obstruct our progress toward that glorious mansion of rest and peace, which thou hast prepared for all those who are willing to deny themselves, take up their daily cross, and follow thee.

11th. Yesterday I was favored to attend our meeting, and was therein enabled to partake of a little crumb of divine refreshment having my spirit bowed under a melting sense of the great goodness of our heavenly Father towards us, in all his dealings and dispensations. Sat the meeting through in peaceful silence.

14th. O Lord God of Hosts, the humble petition of my heart to thee this morning, is for preservation and safe keeping ; deeply sensible that I cannot of myself save myself from surrounding dangers, but must fall unless thou interpose thy mercy for my escape. O quicken me now in the decline of life, to see, and to feel the great need of still cleaving close unto Thee, the Rock of my salvation, who hast hitherto been graciously pleased ofttimes to make bare thine holy arm for my deliverance. Suffer me not, holy One, to counteract thy divine will, but strengthen me to endure for thy name's sake, whatever thou mayest see meet to allot unto me for the further trial of my faith and patience, that so thy merciful designs may be fully accomplished, and thus work for me a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory.

17th. Grant me righteous Father to witness oftener than the morning, the operation of thy re-redeeming, heart cleansing power upon my soul, that no part or particle of that which is not of thee may be spared, but that all may be crucified by the baptismal influence of the Holy Ghost and fire. O! how can mortals be idle and unconcerned, seeing they have so much to do, such an host of enemies to encounter, so many snares laid, baits set and temptations spread, to delude, entrap and bring into thraldom probationers destined for eternity. Truly, in order to keep the ground and maintain the combat as becomes Christian travelers, we have no time to spare for the indulgence of the carnal mind, or fleshly appetites, but ought always to watch and pray without fainting, lest the grand enemy who is continually seeking for an occasion to vaunt himself over us, should succeed in his designs upon us, and we have sorrowfully to witness a falling back as in the rear; for I have no doubt but our holy Head and High priest who is touched with a feeling of our infirmities, and is a helper at hand, would enable us, as the eye of our mind was kept in singleness unto Him, to bruise the serpent's head, strengthening us to resist all his temptations — yea, to make us more than conquerors through faith in His name.

21st. O dearest Lord, strengthen me to resist, as I do abhor and detest the insinuations, temptations and provocations of the grand seducer of souls, and whatever may tend in the least degree to excite to evil, for without thy holy aid I sometimes fear I shall yet fall a prey, being but a weak and frail worm. But thy grace is all-sufficient. Blessed Saviour, interpose thy grace and strengthen me with might in the inner man to stand against

the inundations of the potent enemy, whose buffetings, temptations and provocations have been very severe and heavy upon me of late. O Lord, thou only knowest the depth of my inward suffering both by day and by night, so that I am ready to query why it is thus with me? Why am I so severely tried? I think I feel willing to serve thee in any way thou shalt point out, and to do thy will as far as it is revealed. But although my cup hath of late been a bitter one, yet I can thankfully acknowledge that at seasons my heart hath had humblingly to rejoice that my faith remains unshaken in the power and all-sufficiency of Him who died for sinners, and who is touched with a feeling of our infirmities, and was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin, that He is still able to succor, and to deliver from the power of satan, all those who put their whole trust in Him. Thus mercifully favored as with a grain of living faith, I am at times enabled to exclaim even in the very heat of the battle, I will not let thee go, except thou bless me, and though thou slay me, yet will I trust in thee. O grant me therefore thine holy word of patience, that I may be kept perfect and entire unto thy coming: for thou wilt yet come and fill my poor deserted heart with thy cheering presence when it is thoroughly purged from every defilement. That it may be thus prepared is the ardent prayer of my soul.

Third mo. 19th. Yesterday I attended our select preparative meeting held at New Bedford, which was I think one of the most suffering and painfully exercising seasons I ever witnessed. O Lord be graciously pleased to preserve thy humble dependent children, whose only trust is in thy mercy; who have no might nor strength of their

own. O gracious Father, keep them as in the hollow of thy holy hand, until the fury of this awful blast from the wilderness be overpast, and enable us to watch, and to pray continually unto thee, who remainest to be a God hearing prayer, that we may escape the temptations of the wicked one, who is making great efforts to advance his kingdom; and under a specious covering is seeking to exalt himself in the hearts of some of whom I have believed and expected better things; where he would fain sit as judge, and be worshipped.

But O holy Father, thy hand is not shortened that it cannot save, neither is thine ear grown heavy that it cannot hear — O then succor us we humbly beseech thee in all our trials and difficulties, and of thine unmerited mercy grant us patience to bear and forbear in Christian meekness; and with feelings of true pity, and under the gathering influence of thy love, secretly to labor for a restoration of that which seems ready to perish. Renew O Lord our trust and humble confidence in thee, and grant unto thy little ones the shield of living, saving faith, even that whereby we may be enabled to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked one, that through thy never failing power and goodness, we may be made victorious over the beast and his image.

Fourth mo. 8th. Bless the Lord O my soul, and forget not all his benefits. Thou Lord hast been a strength to the needy in his distress, a covert from the storm, and as the shadow of a great rock in a weary land.

11th. Under an humbling sense of my own weakness and frailty, O Lord, all that can feel within me, is raised to implore thy mercy for safe keeping through the remaining baptisms I may yet

have to pass. Beset with trials and tempted with fears, to Thee I come, O thou who art mighty to save and strong to deliver the humble soul that trusteth in thy power. In looking toward our Society sorrow fills my heart, because an enemy hath entered the borders of our Zion, and greatly demolished her beauty and eclipsed her brightness, yet O Shepherd of Israel, arise for thy mercy's sake and for thy holy name's sake and redeem her even by the spirit of judgment and burning from every defilement, that her reproach may yet be wiped away, and we yet be what thou hast graciously designed us to be, a people to show forth thy praise.

23d. Bowed in spirit, in a fresh and living sense of the continued goodness of the Shepherd of Israel, I have been enabled to beg for strength to persevere in resignation, and true dedication of heart in the path of duty, under his holy guidance and direction.

Fifth mo. 22d. O Lord be mercifully pleased to strengthen every good desire and righteous intent of my heart, and weaken every inordinate affection and propensity to evil. Teach me daily submission to thy holy cross, plunge me again and again as into the very bottom of Jordan, that I may be purified and redeemed from all that is impure, and thus be made more and more conformable to thy divine image. Keep me low and humble before thee, that so O Father thou mayest be pleased to be my Teacher, Leader and sure Keeper. Thou alone art able to succor and sustain, and to deliver out of the snares and temptations of satan. O Lord the power is thine, the glory is thine, who alone art worthy with the Son of thy love, the Lamb our Lord, of worship adoration and praise now and forever more.

26th. Attended New Bedford Monthly Meeting, which was painfully exercising ; however toward the close of the meeting for business I felt the spring of life to arise, in which I had a testimony which was somewhat relieving to my mind. I desire thankfully to acknowledge thy kindness O Lord.

29th. A crumb of living bread vouchsafed at our little meeting to-day. May I walk more and more worthy of thy notice and kind regard, O Thou who deignest to look down from thy high and holy habitation, to revive the spirits of the poor and contrite ones who tremble at thy word.

Sixth mo. 18th. The deep travail and exercise of spirit which I have had to wade under for several weeks (combined with much bodily indisposition) is known only to thee, O Thou, who only canst fathom the heart of man, and knowest what is passing there. From a firm belief that thou dost take cognizance of all our ways, our thoughts and the intents of our hearts, I am enabled at seasons to derive hope, consolation and encouragement: — thou knowest holy Father those that are thine in heart, however tried and tossed they may be, and wilt hold them as in the hollow of thy holy hand. Draw near in thy mercy and strengthen my faith, yea renew my confidence and hope in thee, thou unfailing Helper, for I have no other refuge to flee unto but thy name and power, which is a glorious sanctuary and hiding place from the noise of the archers. O guide me, and guard me through every danger, and support in every conflict by thine all sustaining presence, that through thy blessed aid, I may be enabled in holy confidence, and Christian patience to persevere unto the end, and finally be found worthy to enter that

holy rest which thou hast prepared for all those that love the appearance of Jesus Christ in their hearts.

22d. I may here observe that I was favored to attend our Yearly Meeting this year, which was preciously owned by the overshadowing wing of ancient goodness, through the several sittings thereof. O that we as a people may walk more and more worthy of the high favors conferred upon us, for most assuredly where much is given, much will be required.

Eighth mo. 11th. Having felt for some time drawn in my mind towards the meeting in Allen's Neck, a branch of our Monthly Meeting, last First day I attended it, the fore part of which was heavy; a cloud seemed to hang over us, and it appeared dark and gloomy, but through the arising of the Sun of righteousness which can disperse all clouds, light and life broke forth to my humbling admiration. Great indeed is the kindness and long suffering of Israel's unslumbering Shepherd towards a backsliding and rebellious people. Well might the holy prophet exclaim, "How great is his goodness, and how great is his beauty!"

16th. It is through deep suffering and baptisms that we are purified and prepared acceptably to do thy will O God, and surely if it became Him of whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto God, to make the Captain of their salvation perfect through suffering, it becomes his followers to be humbly resigned to tread the path which He the Lord of Life and glory hath trod, knowing of a truth that tribulation worketh patience, and patience experience, and experience hope, even that blessed hope that maketh not ashamed, because the love of God through Jesus

Christ is shed abroad in our hearts, for which blessed hope's sake we gladly suffer all things which He in his wisdom may allot unto us, for if we suffer with Him and for his sake, we shall also reign with Him.

17th. I visited a sick man; one who had lived a rather loose and dissipated life, yet through infinite mercy was deeply and sensibly awakened in this sickness, by the immediate, powerful operation of divine grace on his mind, to see his undone and lost condition without speedy and sincere repentance and an amendment of life. He was in a broken and contrited state deeply deploring and condemning his past transgressions. It was indeed cause of thankfulness to find him thus brought down, as from the towering heights of vanity and folly, into the lowly valley of self-abasedness and self-abhorrence. Thy voice O Lord is powerful, it prostrateth the tall cedars of Lebanon, and causeth the sturdy oaks to bend; when thou arisest to shake terribly the earth or earthly heart, then the high look and the stout heart are laid as in the dust, and thy power alone is exalted. O that men would praise thine excellent name, for all thy wonderful works, and be willing to bow in the day of thy merciful visitation to their souls, that it might be well with them in time and in eternity.

21st. I have been for a few days much indisposed, yet am favored to feel divine support to be graciously near, whereby my mind is kept from sinking. O how precious is thy love, sweet Lord Jesus! how consoling thy presence! more indeed to be desired than gold, yea, than much fine gold, sweeter also than honey, or the honey-comb to my taste. Great is thy condescension to the poor in spirit. In

a fresh sense of thy goodness my soul is bowed and reverently prostrated as at thy feet, beseeching that thy preserving power and protecting care, may continue to be extended over me in all my future steppings through life; and that for thy great Name's sake and for thy dear Son's sake, Christ Jesus our holy Redeemer, thou wouldst be pleased to forgive all my sins, and blot out all my transgressions, which have been many and multiplied; for O most holy Father, I believe that the blood of Jesus Christ which cleanseth from *all* sin, is sufficient to wash away all impurity and unholiness from my heart. O strengthen me to become more and more obedient to thy all powerful Word, which pierceth even to the dividing asunder soul and spirit, joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart; which separates between the precious and the vile, that through a daily abiding under its crucifying power, I may be more completely prepared to bear the inscription "The Lord our Righteousness." All other righteousness is as filthy rags.

Hear O Lord, my fervent supplications on behalf of our dear children, and be pleased to renew the visitations of thy mercy to such of them as have turned aside from thy divine law written in their hearts, and are too much taken up with vanity and with that which will stand them in no stead in a trying hour. Gracious God remind them of their frailty, that they are but as grass which to-day is, and to-morrow is cut down, and where is it? And O be pleased to strengthen those who have set their hearts to seek thy face, in every good word and work; preserve them in thy holy fear and pure counsel, and suffer nothing to turn their hearts aside from following the pointings of thy holy finger, however it may be in the cross to their natu-

ral inclinations. And if it please thee, O blessed Author of all good, have a watchful and compassionate eye over the younger ones, and suffer them not to be led astray by the grand seducer of souls, but so implant thy holy fear in their tender hearts, as that it may at all times keep them from falling into the snares and temptations of the wicked one. O incline their hearts to seek, and to love and serve thee in the morning of their day, that true peace and happiness may be their everlasting portion.

23d. Though my indisposition still continues, my mind is preserved in a good degree of quietness and comfort, believing of a truth that all these afflictions will work for my everlasting good, as they are patiently submitted to, and thankfully acknowledged as coming from the Father of all our sure mercies, graciously designed to wean me from, and to break every strong cord that would bind my heart and affections improperly, to the things of this lower world. I think I see more and more clearly the great necessity there is for us who are called to minister of the word of divine life in the assemblies of God's people, to be often dipped and stripped, washed and purified, in order to be duly qualified and prepared to receive afresh the holy anointing, that our preaching may stand not in words which man's wisdom teacheth, but in the demonstration of the Spirit, and with power. The channel must be pure through which the gospel is preached, if it convey life to the hearts of those who hear, otherwise it will not reach the witness for God placed in all hearts. The vessels of the Lord's house were to be made of pure gold, — these seem clearly to apply to those through whom the great Head of the Church is sometimes pleased to speak, or in other words to water his heritage.

And when these are duly anointed and authorized to speak in his great Name which is his power, it is indeed justly comparable to the distilling of the small rain on the tender grass, greatly refreshing, comforting and reviving drooping minds; and also at seasons under the same divine authority awakening the dormant, and the dead in trespasses and sins, to a sight of their lost condition, arousing and quickening to more diligence. But whether it falls as the gentle showers, or as a rod, it is equally acceptable unto God, and to the living members of the body of Christ, if it flows afresh from the spring of divine life. O may all beware of preaching themselves; self must be entirely subjected and laid low, and that necessity must be felt, which hath in it the "woe," else all our preaching will be in vain, and we shall obtain no reward. We preach not ourselves, saith the Apostle, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake.

Ninth mo. 14th. "In Judah is God known, his name is great in Israel, in Salem also is his tabernacle and his dwelling place in Zion." How precious is that state in which he is known to his people as their firm Rock and support, their all-powerful helper, and preserver from all the fiery darts of the enemy: a state of quietude and confidence, a state of humble submission and resignation unto all his dispensations. Here, will he break in pieces the arrow and the bow, the shield and the battle-axe, defending his humble suppliants. Here, will he livingly be known to be more excellent than the mountains of prey, or all the proud boastings of the stout hearted. O how precious to feel his gathering, strengthening, melting power and influence over and round about our dwellings!

How at His voice the roaring waves are hushed, and all is peace, calmness and tranquillity! When in true humility and faith we come into that patient and quiet state of mind, where we can ask from a sense of our need, his grace to sustain us under every trial, it is well pleasing in his holy sight; for a broken and a contrited spirit He will not despise.

Tenth mo. 12th. It has appeared to me for some time past that the full time had arrived, when it would be right for me to return the certificate received from our Monthly and Quarterly meetings in 1830, in order to perform a religious visit to some meetings within the compass of New-York Yearly Meeting.* Not having felt the concern to revive with sufficient weight and clearness to proceed therein, I have apprehended myself released from the service, and at our last Monthly and Quarterly Meetings, I ventured, I may say with some degree of fear, to return them to Friends, assigning to them my reasons for so doing, which they appeared to be satisfied with; and I thought I had at the time a renewed evidence that the subject was rightly disposed of. It has been a matter of much close exercise and concern to my mind on various accounts, but I believe I have had but one desire in regard to it, which centered in this, that the Lord's will might be done by, in, and through me — His holy name and power exalted, and my soul humbled and contrited in awful reverence and fear before Him, whose only right it is to rule and reign in our hearts; hoping forever to be preserved in true resignation unto Him who is the Lion of the tribe of Judah, who only hath the key of David, who openeth and no man can shut, and shutteth and no man can open; to whom be glory forever and ever.

* See page 82.

Eleventh mo. 11th. Last week I attended Rhode-Island Quarterly Meeting held at Swanzey, and on First day following was at Portsmouth meeting, in which I thought the blessed Truth was raised into dominion: no praise to the creature, but all praise to Him who hath all power both in Heaven and on earth. O Lord how great is thy goodness and thy mercy in that Thou still art pleased to regard the dust of Zion, condescending to satisfy her poor with bread. O that all might come unto thee, bowing in heart and in mind, and know a being gathered under the shadow of thy holy wing, and become partakers of that bread which perisheth not. O Shepherd of Israel, make bare thine holy arm of power and gather home to thyself poor erring and frail mortals that have strayed from the true sheep fold: grant unto them a day of repentance, that they may return unto thee, and be saved with an everlasting salvation.

30th. I have not committed much to writing of late, but may now remark, that I have not been without my exercises and trials, mingled with favors, and mercies; having had, I trust at times, some good service and comfortable seasons at our own, and some other neighboring meetings, whilst others have been deeply distressing; in some of which my faith has been closely proved. O, the springs of life are exceeding low, and faith and patience are truly requisite, in order to get down where the bubblings up of eternal life are livingly felt to issue forth. Yet through all I am abundantly confirmed that the Lord is a God nigh at hand, a present helper in the needful time, who will never leave nor forsake those who steadfastly love, serve, and obey Him in sincerity and truth. Even this day at meeting, I was much tried with unprofitable

thoughts crowding into my mind, insomuch that I found it hard work to get to any thing like stillness. I strove to shut them out, I cried for help, and for deliverance from the buffetings of Satan, who is still permitted to buffet and accuse. But blessed be God, he cannot cast down those who firmly trust and hope in Christ Jesus our Saviour, whose power remains unchangeably the same yesterday, to-day, and forever; who can and will speak the word, that all-powerful word, which never yet failed in the most tempestuous season, to produce a great calm.

O, holy Father, grant me strength to resist the enemy, and to cleave unto thee, my strong Rock and Tower of safety. O, preserve out of all his snares and delusions, thy little ones who are sensible of their need of thee. O, quicken me to more dilligence and to greater faithfulness, that I may be found pressing forward through every besetment, toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. O, preserve me in an holy, patient, waiting frame, near thy feet, looking unto thee for counsel and direction in all my future steppings; enable me to bear all thy dispensations as I ought; for I have no doubt but they are necessary for my further refinement and purification, in order that I may be found worthy to obtain eternal life. O, spare not of thy washing and cleansing me, in that stream which alone can purify from every defilement. Let me not be like Ephraim, a cake not turned, but turn and overturn, that the baptismal fire of the Holy Ghost, may thoroughly purge the floor of my heart, whereby all the chaff may be consumed, and the pure wheat be gathered into the garner of rest and peace; even so, O Lord.

Twelfth mo. 12th. My soul is engaged in deep

prostration of self, thankfully to adore and commemorate thy goodness and mercy, O Shepherd of Israel, for yesterday's favor at our meeting: all power and praise be forever ascribed to thy holy name, who alone art worthy, Amen.

First mo. 15th. 1832. Grant, O Lord, thy preserving power to attend me in all states, in heights and in depths, in abasements and aboundings. For it is this alone can keep in safety, and shield the poor mind from the arrows of an unwearied enemy. O gracious Father, be thou pleased to be near in every danger, and enable me to watch and pray continually, looking unto thee, the author and finisher of the saint's faith, for a renewal of spiritual strength, and for right direction and instruction in the way of truth and holiness, O Thou that teachest as never man taught, of the heavenly mysteries of thy glorious kingdom.

18th. Search me, O Lord, and know my heart, try me and know my thoughts, and if there be iniquity found in me, purge thou it away. At thy presence the darkness fleeth, bonds are broken, and snares are discovered; great is the glory and the beauty of thy appearance to the pure in heart. O then purify the temple of my heart, and make it meet for thine holy spirit to tabernacle in.

25th. I think I feel renewedly sensible of the need I stand in of Almighty aid and strength, to preserve me from the wrath of the dragon, who ceaseth not to cast out of his mouth floods of temptations, if possible, to destroy the wrestling tribulated seed. O God of mercy, grant the shield of living faith, whereby all the fiery darts of Satan are overcome. O, be thou graciously pleased to be near to sustain my poor soul, in and under every

trial and baptism which thou mayest in infinite wisdom permit, for the further refinement of my soul; that I may indeed be thoroughly purged and cleansed from all that is not of thee. Of a truth, there is great need of often descending as into the washing pool, and of being tried, so as by fire;—for, I am more and more convinced, that without a frequent renewal of this experience, the sons of Levi, the ministers of the Lord, are not duly prepared to offer an offering in righteousness. For whilst clothed with bodies of flesh, and living in a world which lieth in wickedness unless a continual watch is maintained, we are liable to be defiled with its spots. But by the renewings of the Holy Ghost, sent down from God out of Heaven, upon our hearts, we are through a right submission and resignation thereto, in good measure preserved from the world's alloy; O then blessed Father, enable me to welcome trials, tribulations and afflictions, for it is by these things we live; by these things we are taught to know how frail we are, and the need we have of daily watching unto prayer, for strength to resist the evil and to choose the good. It is by these things we are humbled and brought low, and prepared to draw nigh unto God, who is near to all that call upon Him in sincerity of heart.

Second mo. 12th. O Lord, I am poor and needy; hide not thyself from me, but condescend, if consistent with thy wisdom to arise for my help. O Thou who knowest altogether my weakness and infirmities, who vouchsafed in thine unmerited mercy, to bear our infirmities and to carry our sorrows, and who being touched with a feeling thereof, ever liveth to make intercession for us, condescend to lead me, and guide me into the patient waiting for thy coming: for surely thou wilt yet come, and

revive my fainting, troubled soul with thy blessed presence. Although thou mayest in wisdom delay thy coming, yet will I hope and trust in thy return, which will be as the clear shinings after rain. Even so may it be.

16th. I am prevented from attending meeting to-day by indisposition of body, yet remembering the Lord's mercies, my soul I trust has been humbly bowed. Surely O Lord thou hast cared for me, and richly provided for me. O the means of salvation! O condescending love, and kindness unutterable! unspeakable gift of divine grace, freely vouchsafed to thy creature man, purchased by the blood of the immaculate Lamb, slain from the foundation of the world!

O Lord strengthen me to endure sufferings, trials and probations for thy blessed testimony's sake, wash me and purge the floor of my heart, of all that offends thy holiness, by the baptism of the Holy Ghost, that I may be prepared to follow thee in the way of thy leading with more and more acceptance; this is the prayer and fervent desire of my heart.

O Lord forgive all my sins and blot out my transgressions; create in me a clean heart, and renew a right spirit within me.

29th. How precious is that hope, which is as an anchor to the soul, sure and steadfast, in every trial and adverse storm; even a hope and trust in God, through the merits and mediation of Christ Jesus our Lord.

> Hope, which on God is firmly grounded,
> Will never fail, nor be confounded.—T. Ellwood.

Third mo. 6th Look down, O Lord, if it please thee from thy high and holy habitation, on me a poor child. It is unto thee I cry and pour out my

complaint; thou only knowest the extent of my sufferings, and the sorrows of my heart, because I cannot find thee, the beloved of my soul. Hast thou utterly forsaken and forgotten me? Wilt thou never more return and lift up the light of thy countenance upon me, and cause me to hear thy divine voice? O most merciful Father, if it please thee still to try me by thy absence and prove me by desertion, grant me if consistent with thy wisdom, patience and resignation to all which thou mayest allot or permit for the purification of my soul. For thy followers must indeed be made willing to drink of the cup their crucified Lord drank of, and to be baptized with the baptism which he was baptized withal; therefore spare not of thy fatherly chastisements until I am made subservient in filial obedience to thee in all things.

7th. Last evening after retiring to bed, I lay several hours under (I think I may say) as great a load of inward distress and darkness as I ever witnessed. I was for a season ready to apprehend that I had never been possessed of true and living faith in the dear Son of God, but that my profession had been superficial. I recurred to former mercies and experiences but found no relief. I appealed to my heavenly Father, who knew that from a child I had loved Him, and believed Him to be my only Saviour and Redeemer; but still I could not discern His presence, for He had shut out my prayer, or at least delayed His notice of it for His own holy purpose. The distress of my poor soul was beyond description, for I feared that I was left a prey to the enemy. Some may understand it, who perchance may read in these lines their own experience. In the depths of my distress this language was raised in me as from the bottom of my heart; O Lord I will

never let thee go, nor loose my hold on thee, although I be cast off, never more to see thee in thy beauty as I have seen thee in the sanctuary of thy great power; but I will still call upon thee, and try to serve thee more and more. Then it pleased the Lord in His infinite mercy, so to break my heart and contrite my spirit, that I poured out my soul in a flood of tears, after which my mind became calm and tranquil, and the enemy fled at the Lord's holy presence as chaff before a mighty wind. For this unmerited mercy, eternal praises and humble thanksgiving be ascribed unto the Lord God and the Lamb who is worthy forever, Amen.

12th. Yesterday it being the First of the week, in company with my beloved husband and Benjamin Freeborn and wife, from Rhode-Island, I attended New Bedford meeting both before and after noon. In the morning dear Ruth Freeborn had good service amongst them; but my lips were sealed. In the afternoon however it pleased the Author of all good to open the way for me, and to raise me up as out of the dust, to testify to the all-sufficiency of the gift of divine grace, the word nigh in the heart, purchased unto us by and through the sufferings and death of Christ Jesus our holy Redeemer, on the cross. For some-time previous to this I had been silent as to public ministry, having had to pass through some of the most deep and fiery baptisms, I think I ever witnessed. But O the goodness and tenderness of Him, who as a Shepherd guides his flock, and best knows where to lead and feed them in safety! He hath once more in his adorable love and mercy, condescended to unveil his face, and to shine upon my dwelling. Forget not, O my soul, the Lord's kindness; but in deep prostration of self, bow low

before Him forever, reverently bearing in remembrance that He who ascended is the same who also descended even into the lower parts of the earth. O the descendings of heart and soul, that are necessary in order to know a right qualification and preparation of heart, to offer an offering that will ascend with acceptance to the throne of Him who is King of kings and Lord of lords.

Fourth mo. 19th. At our week-day meeting my mind was strengthened and encouraged with the animating belief, that the good hand of the Lord was at work in and among some of those in the early and middle walks of life, for gracious and dignified purposes. O may there be a yielding up unto Him with unreserved dedication of heart, letting all go for His blessed cause and testimony's sake; that His own glorious work may prosper and flourish, and not be marred as on the wheel by clinging to any lower object. O Lord watch over and keep thy tender plants from all that may hurt or hinder their growth; preserve them green and susceptible of thy divine impressions, and in thy holy and pure fear.

Fifth mo. 14th. O Lord grant that thy holy arm of everlasting power may be over and round about, to preserve my heart from evil, for thou art my bow and battle-axe, my only hope of salvation.

29th. Without me ye can do nothing, said our blessed Lord and Saviour, to his immediate followers; a solemn humbling truth; sufficient to lay low the boastings of human wisdom and vain philosophy. Nothing can the very best and most accomplished men do of themselves, with all that art or nature can bestow, to promote the great and glorious cause of truth and righteousness, or their

own eternal peace and salvation. For this, man must be assisted and illuminated by and through the gift of divine light and grace which is freely tendered unto all, being the purchase of that gracious and voluntary offering made by Jesus Christ on Calvary's mount, when he gave his precious life, and shed his precious blood, for the sins of all mankind; that whosoever believeth on him should not perish but have everlasting life. He remaineth to be our helper, our advocate and mediator; on Him are we dependent, for He is the fountain and center of all good; to him alone will I look for salvation. Help thou me, O Lord, preserve my heart chaste in thy holy sight, and steadfast in faith and reliance on thee, that I may be strengthened to do all that thou mayest require at my hand in an acceptable manner. For truly I am sensible that without thee I can do nothing as I ought, being but a little one among the thousands of Israel, having no might but in thee, the eternal hope and strength of thy people.

Sixth mo. 24th. The sacrifice of a broken and contrite heart, O Lord, thou wilt not despise, neither turn a deaf ear to the prayer of the humble; but will condescend to revive their drooping spirits by the consolations of thy blessed presence. With the poor in spirit thou deignest to dwell, for theirs is the kingdom of Heaven. The humble thou delightest to teach of thy ways, yea, to guide them in the paths of pure wisdom. Thou, O Shepherd of Israel, giveth grace to the lowly, and feedest the hungry soul with good things; even with the bread and water of life thou dost sustain them; in every trial, thine holy wing of divine love is stretched out to defend and shield them, whilst underneath is thy everlasting arm of power to bear

up and support them. Thou never leavest nor forsakest thy little ones whose trust and dependence is on thee alone for help — thou givest power to the faint, and to them which have no might thou increaseth strength.

O holy Father, preserve me humble before thee, in reverent prostration of self, under a feeling sense of thy great goodnesss and tender mercies toward thy poor creature man. Quicken me, I pray thee, to a more steady watchfulness, to more vigilance in striving against the evil, in resisting the enemy and in all things that appertain to my eternal well being — for thine is the power, thine is the glory, and thine the kingdom forever and forever more.

29th. Well may we adopt the language of the holy prophet, and say on considering the fallen estate of some of those who have adorned the first ranks in the armies of our Israel, "Oh that my head were waters, and mine eyes a fountain of tears, that I might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people!" "When Israel was a child, then I loved him, and called my son out of Egypt." "When Ephraim spake trembling, then was he exalted, but when he offended in Baal, he died." O may those unhappy instances of departure from the humility and simplicity of the Truth as it is in Jesus Christ our holy Redeemer, who was a pattern of meekness, and who taught his disciples many lessons of humility, and of love one unto another, excite us to a diligent watching even unto prayer, that we may stand, being rooted and grounded in the Truth of God in Christ Jesus our Lord; lest we also should fall after their example, for our safety depends on our keeping low and humble before the Lord who is our only help, strength and hope of salvation. The branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except

it abide in the vine — no more can we except we abide in Christ the living and true vine, from which all the branches, whether small or great, derive their strength and nourishment, and are enabled to bring forth fruit to the praise of Him who beareth and supporteth them. Out of this, our fruits will be anguish and bitterness of soul in the end. Therefore, O Shepherd of Israel, be pleased to extend thy holy and divine arm of power for the preservation of thy little, dependent ones, who have none in heaven, neither in all the earth, to look unto for help and deliverance, but to thee alone; even so Father if it please thee — Amen.

Seventh mo. 4th. The gracious promise of the Most High, by the prophet Hosea "I will be as the dew unto Israel: he shall grow as the lily, and cast forth his roots as Lebanon. His branches shall spread, and his beauty shall be as the olive tree, and his smell as Lebanon. They that dwell under his shadow shall return; they shall revive as the corn, and grow as the vine: the scent thereof shall be as the wine of Lebanon," is brought to my remembrance, under a renewed sense of His excellent goodness and condescending kindness in refreshing and reviving with the consolations of his divine presence, contriting and humbling before Him my poor soul, bestowing in the needful time a little portion of that bread and water which truly nourisheth and satisfieth the hungry and weary soul. Oh how great is His goodness! how great is His mercy! He giveth bread which strengtheneth, and wine, new in his heavenly kingdom, which alone maketh the heart of man truly glad; yea, oil also, which maketh his face to shine with that beauty and brightness which emitteth light to those around. Bless the Lord O my soul, and all that is

within me bless his holy name; forget not all, neither any of his benefits. O most merciful Father keep me as in the hollow of thy holy hand, out of all temptations and delusions, for indeed thou hast done great things for me, holy and reverend is thy Name. And now once more I dedicate my life, my strength and the residue of my days, unto thee O my blessed Saviour, humbly desiring if consistent with thy will, that thou wouldst continue to be with me in all the remaining probations and sufferings which yet remain to be filled up in me, for the body's sake.

Eighth mo. 1st. I am sensible that I cannot write to profit, except thou O Lord, influence my heart, and direct my pen; then will I make known thy great goodness, thy loving kindness, and tender mercies toward the workmanship of thy holy hands, then will I make mention of thy marvellous acts, thy righteous judgments, and thy fatherly chastisements, exercised upon us for good, that we may learn righteousness, and refrain from iniquity, and turn unto thee with rended hearts and contrited spirits, acknowledging that thou art just and equal in all thy ways.

8th O that I was more worthy to bless and praise thy holy name, my Rock and my Redeemer, for all thy great and manifold mercies conferred on me, through this my earthly pilgrimage; but O blessed Jesus notwithstanding thou hast freely bestowed upon me thy unspeakable gift of divine grace, and hast visited me with convincing power and strength, the which I firmly believe to be altogether sufficient and efficacious to overcome every evil seed in us, yet do I still come unto thee poor and naked, miserable and blind, an unprofitable servant, unto whom belongeth blushing and con-

fusion of face — having no offering to make, or oblation to bring, which thou wilt accept, unless in thine unmerited kindness, thou art pleased duly to qualify and prepare the heart to offer, and to give the lamb for a burnt offering. It is all of mercy, unmerited mercy, that I am favored to taste of thy redeeming love, and feel thy tendering power to humble my heart before thy holy presence, whose love is unspeakable to the poor and needy.

25th. I think I can say that from my early days, I have felt a deep concern for the salvation of my soul, and have at times been ardently solicitous that I might be kept from everything that might prevent me from obtaining the crown immortal. And this concern is still paramount with me to all others, that I may at the last be found in my lot; yet am conscious that there have been many failures, many departures from the right way; but God who knoweth how frail we are, who remembereth that we are dust, hath in his condescending goodness followed me with his judgments; His fatherly chastisments hath He in mercy inflicted, whereby I have been brought back into the path of divine light from whence I had strayed; blessed be His holy name and power. Although at this time I feel as one of the least of His flock and family, there is a secret sustaining hope, a grain of faith vouchsafed that I shall not be utterly cast off, which I would not part with for all this world and the glory thereof. Thou O Lord, only knowest the hidden conflicts, and secret exercises of mind which are mine, as I pass along, arising from fears within, and tumults without, whilst I endeavor to wash and anoint, that I may not appear unto men to fast; but secretly to put up my prayers to thee

for preservation, believing that thou who seeth in secret will yet openly reward.

Ninth mo. 4th. Give us this day our daily bread, O holy Father, feed me with that bread which thou knowest will most effectually contribute to my spiritual health, even if it be the bread of adversity, and the water of affliction; through thy grace strengthening me, I can say thy will be done; as in heaven, so on earth.

5th. I have been for some weeks so much unwell as not to be able to attend all our meetings, but have now regained my health, so as to be diligent in the attendance of them, which I esteem a great and precious privilege; although I have had much opportunity in this my late confinement for retirement, reading and meditation, and may acknowledge that I have at seasons felt my mind refreshed with the little streams of that river, which maketh truly glad the whole heritage of God; so that I have been brought to the acknowledgement of the royal Psalmist, that one day in thy courts is better than a thousand — yet at intervals, leanness and barreness have been my portion; however I am supported in the belief which is mercifully afforded, that there is an invisible, invincible arm of divine power underneath, that will sustain me through every painful conflict, and proving baptism. All I can ask is, that faith, patience and resignation may hold out unto the end, for although sorrow may endure for the night, yet joy will spring in the morning.

17th. I feel the necessity to be increasingly great for watching in order to escape the wicked one, who I perceive as I advance in years, and I humbly trust in some degree of Christian experience, is also increasingly busy in his attempts to

undermine and destroy the faith of poor man. If he cannot effect his purpose by elating the mind to an eminence of spiritual pride, he will endeavor to sink it below hope; but blessed be the great Name and power of Israel's Shepherd, He slumbereth not, but watcheth over, and hath hitherto in mercy preserved from these sad extremes, all who have rightly trusted in his unfailing arm of power; the strong Rock and refuge of the righteous, where the enemy cannot enter, even the secret place of the Most High.

23d. At our meeting to-day, favor, divine favor was extended. The Lord is yet mindful of his people; He is still graciously disposed to do them good. He condescendeth to plead with the rebellious, and to bear long with transgressors. His mercy is from everlasting to everlasting, of which the righteous are made freely to partake.

Eleventh mo. 14th. O Lord, be pleased to look down in mercy upon me, and preserve me from the power of the enemy; my trust is alone on thee, my sure helper.

Twelfth mo. 9th. I have now been confined for six weeks, mostly to my room, and a considerable part of the time to my bed, having had a severe attack of pleurisy; am yet very weak, indeed, so great is my weakness at times, that I am almost ready to conclude I have nearly done with the things of time. But be this as it may, my heart still glows with desires, that I may be found pressing forward through every trial and besetment which may in inscrutable wisdom be permitted to assail me, toward that city, not one of whose inhabitants can say I am sick; where pain and sickness will no more interrupt; where sorrow and sighing

can never come,; but joy and gladness will ever resound; thanksgiving and the voice of melody will be forever heard. O then eternal Fountain of all good be pleased to strengthen with might, the inner man — that although the outward man may wax feeble and decay, the inward may be renewed and strengthened day by day, to a right exercise of patience and every other christian virtue. Be thou O Lord, my strength in weakness, health be thou to me in sickness, in poverty of spirit be thou rich consolation, yea, my alone keeper, healer, and almighty Saviour in every needful time.

17th. "Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me bless his holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits: who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases; who redeemeth thy life from destruction; who crowneth thee with loving-kindness and tender mercies."

Truly thou art good, O Lord, and very great are thy mercies. Thou condescendest to remember the poor and him that hath no helper. Thou art their never failing refuge; for gracious purposes thou bringest down, and when they are afflicted, thou liftest up and pourest in the oil of consolation, even the influences of thy divine Spirit whereby the deeply afflicted and seemingly deserted soul is revived, refreshed and truly comforted, and made livingly to rejoice in thy salvation.

I may say that during my late indisposition, I have suffered much from a sense of desertion, the withdrawing of the sweet incomes of divine love. O what can add more deeply to our distress than the absence of the beloved of souls? Surely nothing; for when Jesus our holy Redeemer is with us, sustaining as well as enlightening our minds

through the tribulated path of life, then all our pains are sweet, all our afflictions are light, and we can rejoice and give thanks even under great tribulations. But surely it is the duty of his professed followers in the seasons of his absence, to bear whatsoever He in his incomprehensible wisdom may see meet to lay upon them for their good, with patience and holy resignation, trusting and confiding in his power and goodness for deliverance. O my soul, patiently wait and quietly hope for the salvation of thy God, and never more distrust that mercy, which thou hast so often and so freely partaken of.

20th. One thing have I desired, and that will I seek after — that I may dwell in thine house O Lord all the days of my life. This, if I know and understand the language of my heart, is the sum of my wishes, that I may so pass the time of my sojourning here as that my dwelling may be in the favor and under the protection of Him who is King of kings. When I can feel the smallest token of this, I matter not poverty, desertion or seclusion; for this is the crown of glory and diadem of beauty — without this we are poor, but with it rich, take what else He will away. But I know that to attain hereunto, all diligence must be given to our holy calling, else our election will not be made sure. Bow, O my soul, in deep humility, and cease not to intercede for preservation on the sure foundation, that the pollutions of the world may be escaped, and thou be found worthy to stand in thy lot at the last.

23d. I am not yet able to attend meetings, — a privilege which I have highly prized; and can remark that when I am deprived of the favor of getting out, it affords me much satisfaction that I

have endeavored diligently to attend when health would permit; and can thankfully acknowledge and commemorate the loving kindness and tender mercy of my divine Master, in vouchsafing at times and seasons in my days of affliction, a little crumb as from His bountiful table, which has been comforting and strengthening to my poor mind. O He is good and there is none like unto Him — a faithful high priest, touched with a feeling of our infirmities, He knoweth how to compassionate our weak and low estate, being ever near and ready to aid and succor his dependent ones in the needful time.

27th. Surely, O Lord, when the light of thy law is hid from us, we are in darkness and are liable to stumble. There is need of faith and patience, and an unremitted watch, for of ourselves we are not able to resist temptation; no, no; it is indeed of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, for His compassions fail not, they are new every morning.

Through unwatchfulness I have recently been brought very low in mind, abased as in dust and ashes. By giving way to a disposition in myself naturally quick, I spoke in a manner altogether reprehensible. I soon felt what I had done — asked forgiveness of the person I had wronged, and with deep sorrow and contrition of soul implored forgiveness of my heavenly Father. O wash me thoroughly from mine iniquity and cleanse me from my sin; for I acknowledge my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me. O that in future I may be more watchful, and more guarded; that I may no more offend thy holy and divine spirit.

29th. Unto thee will I look O thou gracious and long suffering God, forgiving iniquities and

blotting out transgressions, who delightest to hear the voice of the truly penitent, and will in due time administer lenient balm to the wounded heart. Who can sufficiently adore thy goodness and tender mercy? O my soul forget it not; sooner let my right hand forget its cunning and my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth, than ever I should forget thee, O my healer, and my God.

First mo. 2d., 1833. Another year has now rolled away, and what improvement hast thou made O my soul? hast thou known an increase in the increase of God? hast thou grown rich in faith and good works? works of humility, patience, piety, charity and love. O keep in humble remembrance that a talent is committed to thee for improvement; forget not that when thy Lord cometh He will require his own with usury. O God and Father of all consolation, grant that an humiliating sense of thy unmerited kindness toward me an unworthy worm, may excite to a greater degree of faithfulness in filling up the various duties devolving upon me, both religious and social; assist thou me I pray thee, to discharge myself according to thy blessed purpose, that my garments may be clean in the great day of account, having been washed and purified in the blood of the Lamb, unto whom be ascribed all power and glory forever.

9th. O Lord, thou alone art my helper — unto thee will I cry in my distress, yea, in the night season will I call upon thy holy name for thou wilt hear me, thou wilt deliver my soul out of all adversity, and again bring up my feet out of the mire, and set them on the Rock that is higher than I; when a new song will be given me, even high

praises to the Lord God and the Lamb, worthy forever to be magnified and adored, saith my soul.

10th. Last night I experienced a sharp conflict; O the stripping which I underwent, — naked and bare, I beheld myself in the presence of an omnipotent Almighty God; — Satan, being permitted, roared, and cast forth floods of temptation, which would have destroyed my life, but for the secret sustaining power of God, who condescended in his wonted kindness and unutterable mercy to revive the grain of faith remaining, whereby I was enabled to cry unto Him, as out of the deeps for preservation, when these memorable words were brought fresh to my recollection. "In a little wrath I hid my face from thee for a moment, but with everlasting kindness will I have mercy on thee," which allayed my fears and caused a joyful hope to spring in my heart, so that I could say with the Psalmist, "I will hope continually, and will yet praise thee more and more." O that no poor soul may ever distrust his power and mercy, for His merciful kindness endureth forever. A sense thereof hath raised in me a cry, a fervent desire that I may be more deeply clothed with true humility, with heavenly meekness, with pure love and true charity, which is the bond of perfectness, that being thus arrayed, I may be enabled to stand in the day of battle, although it may be with confused noise, and garments rolled in blood, or as with fuel of fire; fighting the good fight of faith, under the banner of the great Captain of our salvation, who never was turned back, neither overcome; but nobly overcame and repulsed all His enemies. Sing, O ye righteous, and shout for joy all ye his saints, for the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth.

14th. In thy favor O Lord, is life; thy judg-

ments are just; by them is the heart made clean, and prepared to offer an acceptable offering unto thee, who art fairer than the sons of men; grace flows from thy lips. Thy rod as well as thy staff hath comforted my soul. Happy is the man whom thou correcteth; despise not therefore his chastening, neither faint when rebuked of Him, who woundeth but to heal, who bringeth down and layeth low his chosen, in order to raise them up; to make them sit in heavenly places, in Christ Jesus.

20th. To-day is the third time I have attended meeting since my recent sickness; I thought divine goodness was near, and we were in some degree favored together.

25th. Yesterday I attended our Monthly Meeting, which I had not for two months previous, in which my mind was opened, and enlarged on these words, "Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me; and the Lord whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in." I thought divine favor was extended — Truth prevailed, the wing of ancient goodness being spread over us, for the gathering together the scattered and strayed sheep, to the fold of rest; renowned forever, over all be the arm of Omnipotence: for thou hast not, O Lord, utterly forsaken thine heritage, in this day of ease and of great declension, but art still mercifully disposed to do good to thy people, condescending to own, and by the stretching forth of thine own arm of power to heal, to restore, to reconcile, and to redeem thy creature man from a state of sin and transgression. Grant, O Lord, if consistent with thy wisdom that the word preached may profit, being mixed with faith

in them which hear, may it fasten as a nail in a sure place.

Second mo. 22d. We have just received intelligence of the illness of a beloved daughter at Friend's Boarding School at Providence. It brought a fresh trial upon my mind, my own health being very feeble; but through the merciful kindness of my gracious helper I was enabled to cast my care upon Him, who hath sustained and supported me under this trial also. Truly he is good, and His mercy endureth forever.

26th. Thy visitations, O blessed Father, and source of all good, though sometimes seemingly marked with severity are nevertheless oft-times harbingers of solid good to thy children, graciously designed for their furtherance in the way of life and salvation. Thou best knowest what we stand in need of. Thou knowest, even thou O Father, who art consummate wisdom, when to administer the rod, and when to furnish the staff of life. To thy allwise disposal enable us to surrender our all, at all times and in all places. O bless this dispensation to my dear child, and grant if it please thee, that it may prove a strong incitement to her, first to seek Thee and thy righteousness: and O may it tend to wean from, and to stain the beauties and fading glories of this vain and transitory world, that the primary concern with us all, may be to seek an unfading crown of happiness, in those blissful mansions above, where Christ sitteth King and Lord forever.

Third mo. 13th. It is good to sit alone and keep silence, yea, to put our mouths in the dust, if so be there may be hope; for the Lord our God is gracious; He will not always chide, neither keep

his wrath forever. When Israel, revolting Israel, returned with all his heart and humbled himself before His awful majesty, then had the Lord compassion on him, and healed him, for He remembered His covenant with Abraham, Issac and Jacob: surely his merciful kindness is from everlasting to everlasting to those that obey him.

18th. Yesterday at our little meeting we were favored to partake of heavenly refreshment from, I trust, the bountiful hand of Israel's Shepherd. O that we may walk more and more worthy of his divine notice and heavenly regard, who hath not, blessed be his holy name, ceased to show kindness to the wrestling seed of Jacob; but is still mindful of all those who are concerned above every other consideration, to seek and to serve Him.

30th. (First-day.) I am so much indisposed as not to be able to attend meeting to-day, yet hope my mind has been, and still is profitably exercised thus far through the day. My much enfeebled frame, and broken constitution often remind me that my stay here in mutability cannot be long, — O Lord, my gracious and holy helper, my strength and my deliverer, enable me to finish the work thou hast assigned me to do; and at the last mercifully condescend to be with and support me by thy blessed power and presence. O take away all defilement through the renewed washings and cleansings of thy all-powerful Word; so that the sting of death may be removed and the grave have no victory. This, O holy Father, is my petition and my request.

Fourth mo. 5th. I was enabled to attend our Quarterly Meeting held at New Bedford yesterday,

which was large. I thought it graciously owned by the great Head of the Church, who in the riches of His love (which was as an holy canopy spread over us) deigned to sound forth his glorious Gospel invitation to all present; to those afar off and to those who are near, through instruments of His own preparing; the hungry were invited to the Lord's table, the thirsty to drink of the waters of life freely; even without money and without price; the weak were strengthened, the mourners comforted, and the weary refreshed in spirit. O! that men would praise the Lord for His goodness and for His wonderful works to the children of men. He still regardeth the dust of Zion, and will never fail to satisfy all her children with the bread and water of life; even that which strengtheneth and nourisheth up unto eternal life. Bless the Lord, Oh my soul, and forget not all his benefits.

11th. O God of mercy, I humbly beseech thee of thine infinite kindness, preserve my soul through all, steadfast in faith and patience, hoping and trusting in thy salvation forever.

Many are the conflicts and various the baptisms which I have had to wade through, on my own, my family's and the church's account; permitted no doubt in best wisdom to purify and to sanctify my soul, yea, to render it meet for thy glorious kingdom. O then, let thy presence but accompany me, and I will follow thee whithersoever thou mayest be pleased to lead, even unto death. O Lord, thou art glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders. Thou hast indeed covered my head in the day of battle — thou hast brought forth my light as out of obscurity and made my darkness as the noonday: praises, living praises, be forever ascribed unto

thy great and glorious name, forever and forever more.

14th. I attended meeting to-day, both forenoon and afternoon, at New Bedford; the former, a truly laborious one to me, but I was helped through my exercise to my own peace, for which favor I desire to be humbly thankful. In the latter, silent.

15th. Attended a funeral at our meeting house, which was a favored season; those present were pressingly exhorted to work while the day lasteth, before the night cometh wherein no man can work.

16th. O gracious Father and source of all good, preserve me in all humility and lowliness of mind, watching unto prayer, so that I may through thine own power, keep the shield of living faith, and be clothed with the armor of righteousness both on the right and on the left, and thereby be prepared to stand, even in the evil day, in the hour of temptation, which shall come upon all those that dwell on the earth, for the trial of their faith and patience; whether they be founded but as on the sand, or on the immovable,unchangeable Rock which endureth forever; for every man's work must be proved of what sort it is, and the day shall declare it.

26th. Lord, a sense of thy goodness prompts me to write, blessed are they whose only hope is in thy eternal arm. Yea, such only will be blessed, and know in the troublous season a safe hiding place in thy secret pavilion, where the archer may shoot his arrows but in vain. Trust therefore, O my soul, at all times trust in the Lord; wonderful in counsel, excellent in power is our God.

Fifth mo. 1st. I often grieve and am afflicted, that after so many years experience of the kind

and gracious dealing of an all-wise Providence with me, the many deliverances witnessed, and mighty works wrought by his eternal power; his love and his mercy marvellously extended to me; that, after all these great things, when his chastenings are administered, I should feel no better prepared to receive them. For these things I sorrow and am often in heaviness, because I cannot wholly, entirely and immediately bow in submission to his holy will, whose end and design I have ever found to be merciful. I trust, however, I shall be found pressing after this state, a state in which I can receive evil as well as good from the Lord's holy hand, and bless Him in all.

Sixth mo. 6th. Weak and feeble to-day, I am not able to attend our meeting; but believe a disposition prevails in me that truly desires the accomplishment of the divine will; and hope always to be enabled to centre in this — Thy holy will be done, O Lord.

It has been rather a season of fasting and hunger with me of late, in which the enemy has been busy, presenting at times something that might bear some resemblance to food, endeavoring to allure me to a participation thereof; but I humbly trust that through the light of Jesus Christ our Lord, he hath been seen and resisted. O Lord, let me always sit at thy feet in silence, and in poverty as with my mouth in the dust, rather than once to presume on any thing of my own; for verily I believe that those who are made willing to suffer with the suffering seed, will in the Lord's own time be raised into dominion with the pure seed and word of eternal life; yea, when He, the chief Shepherd, shall appear, these shall appear with Him in glory.

Although I have ever been, and still feel myself

to be, but as a weakling in thy flock, O holy Shepherd, (and whoever may read these broken remarks will perceive that my dwelling and my feeding hath not been upon the towering mountains, neither in rich and flowery meadows, but in the lowly vale,) yet hath thy loving kindness to me been great, and I am content, if I can but experience the renewings of thy cleansing power upon my heart, to purify from all filthiness both of flesh and spirit, that the dross and the tin may be taken away, yea, all the reprobate silver; for I know, O Lord, that thou art well pleased with purity of heart and cleanness of hands.

7th. I am not able to attend our select Preparative meeting to-day by reason of poor health. O Lord, be pleased to preserve me in patience and quiet resignation to whatever thou mayest allot. O the solemn work of purifying the temple of the heart; may it be increasingly the concern of my soul, instead of taking much thought for this poor tenement of clay, which must soon be dissolved. O Lord, thou givest power to the faint, and to them that have no might thou increaseth strength. Be pleased to be near in the time of trial, and sustain my sinking spirit, for thou alone art my refuge. I have no other trust, no other hope, but in thine unmerited mercy through Jesus Christ my Redeemer.

24th. I may now thankfully acknowledge that I have again been permitted to attend our Yearly Meeting on Rhode Island, which was large; and I thought the wing of ancient goodness was spread over us therein, whereby many were refreshed and made glad. And although there is much cause for mourning and lamentation within our borders, on account of the many deficiencies and departures from

the simplicity of our holy profession, yet the honest hearted travelers Zion-ward, were renewedly strengthened to press forward through the crowd of opposition for the right maintenance and support of our precious testimonies.

We had the company of several valuable Friends from abroad, at this Yearly Meeting, whose labors of love amongst us I hope will be blessed.

Seventh mo. 20th. I am distressed, feeling poor and deserted. My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me, or forgotten me. O how painful is this feeling of desertion! But if it was meet for Him, the Bridegroom of souls, our high and holy pattern, to experience such a gloomy state, in order to accomplish the gracious and merciful designs of His coming into the world, how much more should we be made in degree to partake of the nature of His sufferings, yea to have fellowship with him therein, being made conformable unto His death, even the death of the cross, that through faith in His holy name and power, (that precious gift of divine faith, through grace purchased unto us, by the offering of His holy life, and the pouring out of His precious blood, a sacrifice for sin;) we might have everlasting life.

O Lord, let thy spirit of judgment and of burning purify from all that would in the least defile; and grant me patience to endure all thy righteous chastisements, in great mercy designed to bring my soul still nearer unto thee. O suffer not my little faith to fail, but strengthen me to stand against the unwearied foe, whose accusations are sometimes so heavy and close upon me, that were it not for a secret hand of support, I fear I should fall a prey. But forever adored be thy matchless power and might, thou hast hitherto kept me through all trials

and conflicts, both inward and outward. Then, O my soul, trust in the Lord, the mighty God of Jacob, who never will wholly leave nor forsake those who put their trust in Him, but will in due time, I verily believe, give unto them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, and the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; yea, will break the bars and set wide open the prison doors, and say to them that are in darkness, show yourselves. Then will I patiently wait and quietly hope, through thy holy help, blessed Saviour, for thy return, which will be sure to the truly humbled and waiting soul.

24th. O Lord, I greatly desire to commemorate thy tender mercy and loving kindness, and to praise thy holy name with the voice of thanksgiving, being reverently bowed under a fresh sense thereof; for none is like unto thee in the day of trouble; in the hour of distress, none can comfort and relieve like thee. Thou dost graciously condescend to hear the crying of the poor and the sighing of the needy, and for their help dost arise as with healing in thy wings. Thou art nigh to those who are of a broken heart, and dost save such as be of a contrite spirit. Bow, O my soul, in deep humility before Him who is the First and the Last, blessed forever and ever.

26th. It has been my lot in the course of my short pilgrimage, to pass through some painful baptisms unknown to any but my God; seasons, in which my faith has been closely proved, feeling myself so deserted and so divested of all good, that at times I have not known what to do, or where to go for help, assured that if the Lord helped me not, vain would be all other helps, and were it not for a ray of divine light which would irresistibly break

in upon my soul, it seems as though I never could have endured these trials. But He who permitted them to come upon me, no doubt for the proving of my faith and the purification of my heart hath all along, I believe, had His gracious eye upon me for good, and hath hitherto kept me from the power of the enemy; and I have generally found it best, and most conducive to my peace, to attend to the injunction of our divine Master, to wash and anoint, that I appear not unto men to fast; for the Lord looketh not on the outward appearance, but on the heart. He regardeth the inward cry, the inmost sigh, and in his own time He will notice our complaints, and deliver those that patiently endure the turnings and overturnings of his holy hand. May none distrust his love and his power to succor in the hour of temptation, all those who will commit the keeping of their souls unto Him. For He never hath yet failed or come short of fulfilling his blessed promise, that although the mountains may depart, and the hills be removed, yet His kindness shall not depart from those who fear His name.

29th. I may reverently acknowledge the great mercy and ascribe unto the eternal Fountain and source of all blessedness, all the praise and the glory for the favor vouchsafed at meeting yesterday. It was the Lord's doings and marvellous in my eyes. But so it is, and so it hath been in all ages, and I believe it will continue to be, that the Lord is pleased often to make use of mean and contemptible instruments, in order to manifest His own power, and to magnify his excellent greatness. Yea, he hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and the weak things of the world to con-

found the things which are mighty, that no flesh should glory in his presence. O holy Father, preserve me in heights as well as in depths, clothe me with the beautiful garment of meekness and humility, and feed me with the bread and water of life, that thus refreshed I may be strengthened to follow thee wherever thou mayest see fit to lead. Withhold not thy rod, O gracious Father, when thou seest it needful; for thy rod as well as thy staff, hath oft times comforted and profited my soul.

Eighth mo. 12. Lord, I am sensible of my unworthiness of thy notice, yet I humbly beseech thee, take not thy holy spirit from me, but grant that thy blessed presence may go along with me through this vale of sufferings; then whether the north or the south wind blow, or although the fig-tree may not blossom and there be no fruit in the vine; though the labor of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; though the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there be no herd in the stalls; yet I will rejoice in the Lord, and joy in the God of my salvation.

Trials, I do not expect to be exempted from, neither do I desire it, but thy spirit, thy divine grace, I do reverently crave, to support and enable me to bear up under them as I ought.

Thou hast instructed me to know that in this world tribulation will be the lot of all thy exercised children; and also that in thee alone will their true peace abound. And my little experience has taught me to know that those light afflictions, which comparatively speaking are but for a moment, are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be hereafter revealed. O then bow my heart to thy will and keep me from the power of the evil one.

15th. Attended the Monthly Meeting at Westport, where through divine favor, I was strengthened to hold forth the language of invitation and encouragement, to a little tried, stripped company. This Monthly Meeting since my first acquaintance with it is quite reduced as to numbers, yet I believe there is still preserved amongst them a living seed, and that it will yet flourish, and spread forth its branches; and fruit will yet abound amongst them to the honor and praise of the great Husbandman. But this must be through a deep indwelling with the word of divine life, which alone is able to keep and to build us up in the most holy faith.

23d. Attended the Monthly Meeting at New Bedford, in which I was favored through holy help to relieve my mind and felt inward quiet; and although it was under much weakness of body and a deep sense of spiritual poverty that I went on this little errand, I thought I had renewed cause to say, the Lord alone is the helper of his people.

I was encouraged to believe that notwithstanding the sorrowful breaches that have been made in that place by an enemy, there is still preserved a precious remnant who are truly concerned for the welfare of Zion, and for the right maintenance and support of our Christian testimonies; and some of these I believe are among the younger class. That the hands of these may be strengthened, and their borders enlarged, is the fervent desire of my soul for them. But many there are who are contenting themselves with a name, with a bare profession, which in the day of trouble will prove but a broken reed which will stand them in no stead. O that they may see and know, before it be forever too late, the necessity of seeking for solid substance; even a resting place

for the immortal soul, when it shall put off this mortal body. O that the unthinking may lay these things to heart, and be brought deeply to reflect upon their ways.

28th. This morning a fresh token of the Lord's love and mercy has been afforded me. O how precious are the consolations of the Holy Spirit, the tendering, melting influence of divine love! raising the soul in confidence and humble prayer to the throne of grace for preservation and protection through this vale of sorrow, by which the heart is warmed and expanded, and enabled to breathe, glory to God in the highest, on earth peace and good will to men. O ye who are in pursuit of pleasures, who look for happiness in the abundance of this world's goods, or in following after short-lived enjoyments, in the gratification of the carnal mind and appetite, surely you will one day be disappointed, and will have to weep and wail, unless, with full purpose of heart, you turn unto the Lord, who will have mercy upon all such as forsake the evil of their ways, and follow him in the regeneration. Those who trust in the Lord, and seek no other source of happiness, will be made partakers of joy unspeakable and full of glory. They who have chosen the Lord for their portion and the God of Jacob for the lot of their inheritance, He will shield and keep from danger, causing them at seasons to dip their foot as in oil, yea, to fill their cup to overflowing.

Ninth mo. 12th. I have been confined to my room for two weeks past with bodily indisposition; seem now a little better, yet am very weak and feeble. O blessed Saviour, condescend in thy adorable mercy to grant me patience and resignation,

and enable me cheerfully to go down again and again as into the very bottom of Jordan; for I am abundantly confirmed that this *is* the place of cleansing — the river of true judgment. O Lord, here it is, that willingly submitting to thy purifying power, the soul is cleansed and made white, redeemed and prepared for a mansion of never-ending felicity. O, thy chastisements are more to be desired than gold or silver; more sweet than honey are they to my soul, because that by them I live; they tend to keep alive my soul, even in the season of drought and the year of famine.

Tenth mo. 1st. O Sovereign and Almighty Lord, thou who knowest all my probations, all my most secret and hidden conflicts, draw near, I pray thee, and, by thy quickening influence, comfort and console me in my distress: be thou my strength in weakness, my riches in poverty, and my alone helper in every needful time. O stay my mind in holy confidence and quiet on thee, the immutable, unfailing Rock of firm support — here it is that true peace is witnessed; for thou wilt keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on thee, because he trusteth in thee.

7th. I think I can say that I have not sought to be great or popular; but my chief concern has been to know my day's work accomplished in the day time, to endeavor faithfully to discharge myself in my family and in the church, that so I might be found ready when my great and final change comes, to lay down my head in peace. Yet at seasons, such is the feeling of weakness prevalent with me, together with the sense of my shortness in coming up in all points to the true standard, and such the buffetings of Satan, that I am ready at

times to fear I shall one day fall by the hand of the enemy. Then am I in great distress, my conflicts are sore, and my baptisms painful, for I cannot let thee go, O my blessed Saviour, but must forever hold thee fast: although thou slay me or cast me from thy sight, I still must love thee and own thy sentence just, for truly I am unworthy of thy heavenly regard. But thy condescending mercy has never yet failed in the hour of need, and when thy gracious purpose has been effected, thou hast sent relief, even help as from thy holy sanctuary.

The remembrance of thy kindness, O, Lord, is as balm to my afflicted soul, which enables me again to look towards thy holy hill, and to pour out my prayers for a renewed supply of living faith, for strength to persevere in the way cast up by thy wisdom, even in the way of thy holy cross, and that I may escape the snares of the evil one; still hoping and trusting that thou, who hast been with me in six troubles, and hast often clothed me with strength for the battle, will not now forsake me in the decline of life and strength, but will be near to deliver me even in the seventh trouble; yea, will extend thy mercy to the latest period of my time.

Twelfth mo. 1st. O Lord, I am poor and needy! be not far from me; for thou only canst relieve my wants. O gracious Father, enable me quietly and willingly to suffer for, and with, thy precious seed, which is under suffering — possessing my soul in true christian patience, for without this we can never be accounted worthy to reign with thee, who art God over all blessed forever.

11th. Through the goodness of my heavenly Father, I am now favored to enjoy a more comfortable state of health than for two years past; for which blessing I desire to be reverently thankful, but may

acknowledge that I am often fearful lest I should not feel that gratitude which I am sensible is requisite for so great mercy.

O Lord, thou art the inspirer of every grateful feeling and emotion to thee-ward — let me never forget thy loving kindness and tender mercy, but more and more teach me, by the holy influence of thy spirit, so to number my days, as that I may at all times apply my heart unto heavenly wisdom ; for short and transient are all earthly joys — but those to come are unfading and eternal.

Last week I again attended our Quarterly Meeting. It was rather a low time, yet I rejoiced in the belief that the Lord hath a chosen and precious seed amongst us ; who, if they abide sufficiently in the quiet, patient waiting for the coming of Christ Jesus our holy Head and divine Teacher, will yet hear the gracious invitation, "Arise, shine ; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee." May we, with all meekness and readiness, receive the cup which our divine Master has given us to drink, and willingly submit to be baptized with the baptism which He seeth meet to baptize us with, waiting for His salvation. Then I believe he will in his own time string our bows for battle, and teach our hands to war, and our fingers to fight the good fight of faith, and make his little ones to be more than victorious through the everlasting strength of their all-conquering Lord.

Twelfth mo. 22d. No treasure can equal that of a truly humbled and thankful heart, from which grateful acknowledgments arise to the Author of all good. Very great are the favors and mercies with which we are blessed, all proceeding from one great and beneficent Creator and Preserver, who conde-

scends to be our Leader, Comforter and Almighty Redeemer, and who expects from us thanksgiving and grateful praise. And unless we can feel a portion of this in our hearts, however rich and choice the blessings with which we may be crowned, we cannot truly enjoy them. But when measurably sensible of the greatness of our obligations to the blessed Author of them, then are we capable of deriving true comfort from the gifts He has conferred upon us, regarding the Giver more than the gift; most loving and admiring Him.

May unfeigned humility ever attend my steps — as surely it will, if I keep in view my great weakness and frailty, my poverty and utter dependence upon the everlasting arm for help and preservation; for without thee, O sovereign Good, I am destitute and miserable, whatever thou mayest grant beside. O then let me dwell in poverty with thee, my God. For blessed are the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of heaven. O glorious state of penury, may I love it though it be disdained by the rich and the full, who will be sent empty away.

First mo. 1st, 1834. O that I may begin this year with renewed vigilance and watchfulness against all evil, through the interposition of thy merciful assistance, O, Almighty Keeper; strengthen me to follow thee in all thy leadings, with unreserved dedication and willing obedience, and to keep all thy commandments, that it may be well with me. O blessed Saviour, condescend to be with me in all my future trials, baptisms and conflicts, both of flesh and spirit, and be to me a comforter and succorer in the hour of temptation, and increase my faith. O most merciful Father, keep me, I pray thee, from all evil; and of thy mercy, establish my feet in the pathway of true holiness and peace, for

thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, unto whom alone belongeth praise, might and dominion. Amen.

26. Strengthen me, O Lord, in the important duty of watching unto prayer, that I may escape the snares of the adversary; and of reverently waiting upon thee, the eternal fountain of all good, that my spiritual strength may be renewed, so as by thee to run through a troop; and by my God to leap over a wall, in the perilous hour to gain admittance into that strong tower, whereto the righteous flee and are in safety.

Second mo. 6th. From a deep sense of want, of hunger and of thirst at meeting to-day, a living cry was raised in my heart to the Father of all our sure mercies, for a little portion of that bread which alone can nourish the soul up unto everlasting life, that I might be in deed and in truth a true spiritual worshipper — knowing assuredly, that none but such will ever find acceptance with the Lord of life and glory. O what are all pretensions or resemblances, compared with the precious essence of of true, inward, silent, reverential worship before thee, the great I AM. O that thou wouldst make me more and more acquainted therewith. O the excellency and awful dignity of this holy place, in which alone true acceptable prayer is offered up! I greatly desired that all might be rent from my heart that in any degree might obstruct a perfect harmony and intercourse with the Holy One, through the renewed extension of the baptizing, purifying power of the Holy Ghost, that all the dross and tin, yea even the reprobate silver, might be consumed, and thus the floor of my heart become more duly prepared for the reception of heavenly good; that thou, O blessed Lord, mayest be livingly

worshipped from the inmost of my heart, in the beauty of holiness, who alone, with thy dear Son Christ Jesus our holy and crucified Redeemer, art worthy of all worship, adoration and praise, both now, henceforth and forever more.

16th. O Lord, thou art fully acquainted with the depth of my exercises — thou knowest the trials, temptations and sore buffetings of the enemy, through which I have recently had to pass; all which I desire patiently to endure for thy blessed name's sake, knowing of a truth, O Father, that thy power is above every other power, and being steadfast in the belief that all those who rightly endure unto the end, shall be saved with an everlasting salvation.

Third mo. 2d. Never did I feel more fully sensible of the need of divine assistance, nor more deeply realize my own insufficiency for any good word or work. Thou, Lord, art the alone fountain and centre of all good, from whence proceedeth all strength and ability to do or to suffer. Thou art the holy inspirer of every good thought, word or act; then, O most gracious Helper, preserve me in a truly reverent, waiting frame; waiting upon thee for the renewal of that precious faith which alone is saving, and whereby access can only be had to the tree of life, the spring immortal which is as a well of water springing up unto eternal life to those who are in Christ Jesus, the root and offspring of David, the bright and morning star.

Fifth mo. 12th. Blessed art thou, O Lord, for all thy favors. I will love and exalt thy holy name and speak of thy unfailing mercies. Thou hast, in thine own time, given beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, and the garment of praise for the

spirit of heaviness. Thou art the true Comforter of the spiritual mourner, and the lifter up of those who are cast down. Thou, O my beloved, art greatly to be praised for all thy wonderful works to the children of men. Thou hast wrought all my works in me, and enabled me to praise thy name with joyful lips, in the assemblies of thy people. Unto thee with thy dear Son, be all praise forever ascribed.

At our last Monthly Meeting, I opened a prospect which for some time had rested with me, of performing a visit to the families, or a part of the families of Friends constituting our Monthly Meeting, as way might open; which was cordially united with, and liberty given to proceed as best wisdom might direct. And now, O Shepherd of Israel, who putteth forth thine own, and goeth before them, who art a safe Leader and a righteous Instructor; and who only can truly open into the mysteries of thy kingdom, so that no man can shut, and so shutteth that no man can open — thou who knowest the secrets of all hearts, I pray thee, be with me in this weighty concern, and baptize my heart into a right feeling and clear discernment of the states of the people. O go before and lead the way, for surely without thy holy aid and influence, thy handmaiden can do nothing that will redound to thy praise, or promote her own peace. Be thou therefore mercifully pleased to enable me faithfully to discharge myself of that with which thou hast entrusted me; be thou mouth and wisdom, tongue and utterance unto me, that thy glorious cause may be promoted; but may my soul be forever humbled and abased as in the dust, from a sense of thy merciful kindness.

26th. In moving forward a little in the above mentioned concern, I feel constrained to acknowl-

edge the goodness of the unslumbering Shepherd, in favoring me from season to season with a little help, a little fresh ability to press forward through every discouragement which may arise from within or without, leaning upon that arm that never yet has failed any that have rightly trusted therein. And although it must be confessed that the present is a day in which the pure life is very low, yet I have felt encouraged, and a comfortable hope has been revived in my mind, in some of the families in which I have been engaged, that there are a few amongst us of the middle aged, and also of the dear youth, who are under the preparing hand of the Lord for usefulness in His own house; and that these may abide the heating of the furnace — that they may not flinch nor give back until the Lord's will is accomplished in them and by them, is the desire of my spirit.

Sixth mo. 1st. In pursuance of my prospect I have visited about fifty families. In a number of them there was but one individual that was a member of our Society — and while thus engaged, I have greatly felt the need of more faithful, skilful laborers, duly baptized and fitted for service in the Lord's vineyard; and I humbly pray that the great Lord of the harvest may be pleased to raise up, qualify and call forth into the field, more laborers, trained and disciplined under his own divine hand; that the noble vine which he hath planted, may be rightly pruned and dressed, and carefully watched over and nourished in the fear and counsel of the great Husbandman; that fruit may yet more plentifully appear, which will more and more dignify and honor His glorious cause, and tend to beautify this people which he hath chosen to show forth His praise, that it might be said as of Israel formerly,

"Happy art thou, O Israel; who is like unto thee, O people, saved by the Lord, the shield of thy help, who is the sword of thy excellency!"

Seventh mo. 7th. Unto thee, O Lord, will I give thanks, and praise thy holy name, who hast by thy great power hitherto kept and preserved—sustained and supported my poor exercised soul, through many sore conflicts and deep baptisms. It is unto thee I still look, with abasedness of spirit, for protection from the snares of the seducer of souls, for he is still artfully seeking to undermine the foundations of thy people, and I fear has unhappily succeeded but too well in some instances. But, most merciful Jehovah, wilt thou be graciously pleased to arise and take to thyself thy great power, and overthrow and defeat all his evil purposes, and more and more effectually turn the hearts of thy people unto thee, the only sure refuge and place of safety, from the shafts of the enemy.

I was again favored to be at our late Yearly Meeting on Rhode Island, which was largely attended, and we had the company of a large number of Friends from other Yearly Meetings. I thought that through the several sittings divine favor was manifested, yet was my mind clothed with a secret feeling that we had great need to rejoice with trembling; for, notwithstanding we are an highly favored people, even above all others, yet it must be acknowledged by the rightly discerning, that we are a revolting and a declining one. It did indeed appear to me, that some amongst us who fill conspicuous stations, were exposed to great and imminent danger, from giving way to speculative ideas and notions contrary to our ancient practice, and manifesting a greater conformity to those not in profession with us. I believe we can never sustain

the character of true Quakers, by taking one step back into those things out of which our worthy ancestors were called, and so firmly maintained their testimony against, although great sufferings, persecutions and reproaches came upon them therefor.

O Lord, renewedly anoint our eyes to see the devices of Satan, and to take up our cross and follow thee in the path of regeneration; since, without this, no man can ever see thy kingdom.

I have also recently attended our Quarterly Meeting, held at Nantucket. We had the company of several of the strangers, who were at the Yearly Meeting. I thought it would indeed become us to endeavor to be gathered unto our holy Helper, and to present ourselves before Him as with weeping and supplication. Let the Priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep as between the porch and the altar, saying, spare thy people, O Lord, and give not thine heritage to reproach.

Eighth mo. 10th. The spirit truly is willing, but the flesh is weak. I long to become able to endure all things, to suffer all things with true christian patience and fortitude, which my heavenly Father may permit to overtake me for a further trial of my faith and loyalty to Him, let them be of whatsoever kind or nature they may; for O it is good, it is very precious to abide in the quiet resignation, keeping in every season of trial and desertion, the word of God's patience. In this, I may say without any feeling of boasting, has my poor soul at some past seasons known and felt, through the all-sufficiency of divine grace, an humble confidence and sweet serenity, surpassing all human conception, even in the midst of much suffering and conflict both of body and soul. But how sad

is the reverse, when the flesh growing weary, complains of its sufferings, sorrows and labors; notwithstanding the Holy Spirit pleads its sufficiency to keep us from the power of the enemy, if we are only willing patiently to endure, and to trust alone in the Lord. By giving way to restlessness and uneasiness, weakness ensues, and we begin in the absence of our Beloved, to beat the men-servants and maidens, making even those faculties and endowments with which we are blessed, and which are designed, when properly subjected and sanctified by the power of divine grace, to be subservient in dignifying the precious cause of truth and righteousness in the earth, the very means of incurring the displeasure of our blessed Master at his return. O gracious Father, when shall I in all things learn obedience through suffering? It is in mercy thou chasteneth me for wrong, that I may not be condemned. Blessed art thou, O everlasting Shepherd, for I shall yet praise thee, the strength of my life and my exceeding joy.

26th. Last First-day afternoon, I attended the funeral of one not a member of our Society. A large and mixed assemblage of people gathered at the Presbyterian meeting house in this town, who behaved with a sobriety becoming the occasion. The doctrine of universal and saving grace was enforced, and the subject treated, as I thought, with some good authority and evidence of divine strength.

The farther I advance in life, the more prepared I am to see what poor creatures we are without the quickening influence of the Holy Spirit. O how void of all good is the poor mind of man, when destitute of this precious gift, this enlivening, animating, all-sustaining power and presence of the Lord! How, when he is pleased to appear in the

brightness of His own arising, do the hills and the mountains flow down ! All obstructions and oppositions are removed when He, who is our Alpha and Omega, the bright and morning star, appeareth in majesty and beauty.

O that all men universally might acknowledge His power, and bow to the Scepter of truth and righteousness ; that all might know and understand the vastness of his loving kindness to poor, frail worms of the dust, in furnishing such wonderful and effectual means for our escape out of that fallen and depraved state, into which we were sunk by sin, and by yielding ourselves servants to obey sin ; even that all might comprehend the exceeding riches of His grace through Jesus Christ our blessed Redeemer, who died for us that we might live, and become heirs with Him of eternal glory. Amen.

Tenth mo. 8th. I have long been sensible that our time is not the Lord's time, and that His time is always the most suitable for the performance of His divine requirings. Dangerous it is, to defer His work for a more convenient season, for it is much if ever we are favored with like clearness, strength and divine sufficiency for the service, if the right season be let slip ; O this I have seen and known in my own experience. Grant me, O gracious Father, to discern, and through thy holy help to escape the snares of the enemy, who is still striving to lay waste and destroy all that is heaven-born.

12th. Since my return from our Quarterly Meeting, held the first of this month, my health has been, and still is, much impaired, so that I am confined to the house. But I hope and humbly trust, that these light afflictions which are but for a moment, will all work together for good ; that they

may tend to the preparation of my poor soul, for a more glorious and enduring inheritance in the mansions of rest and blessedness, where trials and sorrows cannot intrude. I fully believe that this is the merciful design of our heavenly Father, in thus chastising and correcting his creature man, and that it will work this effect upon all who rightly submit thereto, not opposing the work through an unwillingness to come under the baptizing power of His divine word, nigh in the heart and in the mouth. Surely I may say, in the language of the Psalmist, thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me; yea, the rod as well as the staff, afflictions as well as consolations, have been sources of real heartfelt joy to my poor mind; for oft-times in them, have I clearly seen the hand of divine mercy. O holy Helper, enable me then to bear them as I ought; and in every of thy dispensations to give thee thanks.

14th. Weakness of body and poverty of spirit, are at present my companions, yet my mind seems to be mercifully sustained and supported in humble hope, that He who, ever since I was born, hath preserved my soul by His almighty arm from the power of the enemy, will still be mindful of me now in the decline of strength and of years. This, in his adorable kindness, He is pleased to give evidence of at seasons.

We had a sweet visit yesterday from dear Thomas Kite, of Philadelphia; it was indeed comforting and reviving to my drooping mind.

24th. Surely affliction cometh not forth of the dust, neither doth trouble spring out of the ground, but they are permitted by Him, who well knows what we most stand in need of, and what will most effectually promote our eternal interests.

This state is one of probation, a little space allowed us, in which it is designed that we should use all possible means, to make preparation for a better and more permanent one. But, forgetful of our highest concerns, we are too often found to be hearers only, not doers of the divine law; and were it not that He who is our holy Head and high Priest, whose watchful providence is mercifully extended over us, admonishes us by the rod of correction for our negligence and inattention to those things which so nearly concern us, and again and again plunges us as into the river of judgment, what would our end be? No unclean thing can enter the kingdom of our dear Redeemer, for He will make a man more pure than gold; and as gold is tried in the fire, so are acceptable men in the furnace of affliction; and it is that we may at last be found in a state of acceptance, and finally be admitted into membership with the general assembly and church of the first-born; that the Lord in mercy and in judgment thus pleads with us in many and various ways, to lead us into the path of purity and holiness, and in order that we may see the vanity and fallacy of placing our affections on any object here below, making us to feel how transient is every pleasure, how uncertain are all earth's joys. Well might the holy apostle exclaim, "Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me." Happy would it be for all, in the hour of distress and deep conflict, to advert in humble faith to the answer given to this eminent servant of Jesus Christ, who no doubt was at that season deeply proved; namely, "My grace is sufficient for thee." O let all remember that he was not exempted from trials, but through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, was enabled nobly to stand through all succeeding fiery

trials; yea, to fight the good fight, to keep the faith, to finish his earthly course with joy, and to be made a blessed partaker of that hope, which is as an anchor to the soul both sure and steadfast, receiving this testimony that there was laid up for him a crown of glory in the mansions of rest and peace, testifying that thus should it be with all those who love the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ. O that all might love his appearance, although it may be as a refiner with fire, or as a fuller with soap, to refine and to cleanse us from every defilement; from all that might obstruct an entrance into the kingdom of heaven, trusting in the arm of omnipotence; suffering all things for his blessed name's sake.

Eleventh mo. 9th. At meeting to-day my mind was greatly humbled under a renewed sense of the goodness and condescension of our heavenly Father. O surely He hath not forsaken, neither forgotten his dependent children.

22d. When thou art absent, O divine Love, when thou art pleased to hide thy face, all is darkness; all seems dreary. O these are days of fasting and mourning, and of unspeakable distress, when the holy bridegroom of souls withdraws the consolations of His spirit, the immediate influence of His sustaining power. This is the season in which our faith is to be tried and our allegiance proved, whether it is such as will stand the test, whether we are willing to accompany our blessed Lord not only into the mount but also into the garden, where so great was His agony that he sweat as it were great drops of blood. O, seeing it is needful for all His followers to suffer with Him in order to become qualified to reign with

Him; to drink the cup which he drank of, and to be baptized with the baptism wherewith he was baptized, to become qualified to sit with Him in his heavenly Kingdom, let none shrink or give back because of the cross — because we cannot feel the sensible incomes of his holy presence at all times. O that none may ever turn back in their hearts, and murmur against the Holy One; for He can in his own time, furnish for us a table even in the wilderness, and open for the soul that truly waiteth for Him, streams in the desert; thus will He do, and more, for all that wait upon Him, seeking in seasons of desertion, help from no other source.

First mo. 6th, 1835. Good and gracious art thou, O Lord, even unto me a poor unworthy worm of the dust. O, that an humbling sense hereof may continually abide with me. O fill my heart with love and gratitude to thee, the everlasting fountain of all good, and teach me how to adore thy mercies — to sound forth thy glorious high praise, and tell of thy marvellous works to the children of men; thou who art glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders.

14th. Last fifth-day, I attended the funeral of our esteemed friend Cornelius Howland. The meeting was held at Friends meeting house in New Bedford, and was a solemn and satisfactory opportunity. He had been acceptably in the station of an elder for many years, and will be greatly missed by us who are left behind.

O Lord, enable me faithfully to discharge myself in thy holy sight, of every trust thou art pleased to charge me with, that at the solemn close I may be found ready, having nothing to do but to die. Direct me and keep me in all my ways, pre-

serve me at all times and in all places in the faith and patience of the saints, hoping, bearing and enduring all things for thy blessed Name's sake.

Fifth mo. 14th. I have been confined to the house and mostly to my bed, for eleven weeks past, having had a severe sickness attended with fever, but am at present through mercy a little improving in health, and feel as if I could prostrate my body with my very mouth in the dust, did I believe that would be pleasing in the sight of an omniscient being; or that He regards the position of the poor body. But nay, verily, I believe it is the heart that he regardeth; the heart that is bowed, subjected and truly humbled before Him; and O that this may in all sincerity be my real state, as I humbly trust it is in some degree. O grant me, gracious God, faith, patience and true resignation to sustain all the trials and conflicts thou mayest yet see meet to permit to come upon me for the further refining my soul from dross and tin. O spare not until all the reprobate silver is wholly purged away. Thou knowest the cup thou hast given me to drink, thou knowest what it contains. O Lord, unto thee I look, enable me to receive it joyfully at thy hand, and to call upon thy everlasting name, thy power to uphold and strengthen me to endure unto the end. Be graciously pleased, O Lord, to be near in this season of deep distress, in which I am not only tried with great bodily weakness, but wherein many trials beset me round about. O forsake me not, for thou art my refuge and my hiding place. Unveil thy countenance, sweet Jesus, for thy presence is my life. When thou drawest near and touchest my heart how do the clouds disperse! how is my load lightened, and how are my prospects brightened! O touch

my heart as with a living coal from thy holy altar, and may it be such as will not cease to burn until all is consumed that cannot endure thy baptism and partake of thy cup.

16th. Gracious Preserver, suffer me not to presume on writing any thing that is not under thy holy direction and influence. Thou knowest, O Lord, that it was from an apprehension of religious duty that I first made the attempt — and now if enough has been written, it is enough. O if it please thee, favor me with a clear discerning as it respects this, as well as all other important matters. But it seems at times as if I could not forbear further to commemorate through this medium, the kind and gracious dealings of my heavenly Father, from my very childhood even unto the present day, notwithstanding my many and repeated backslidings. How like a tender parent has he followed me with the rod of reproof — and by his merciful corrections, has caused me to see my transgressions and to supplicate forgiveness, which He delights always to favor the truly penitent with. O, the Lord has brought me through seas of deep distress, both of body and of mind, enabling me at seasons to rejoice in His omnipotent arm, as on the banks of deliverance. And still is he pleased to manifest his tender mercy by a continuance of his fatherly chastisements. O! let the thoughtless, the vain, the inconsiderate, and the irreligious say what they may, my soul has deeply felt the force of this solemn truth, "For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth."

O thou gracious God, I would not ask to be released from trials, but for strength and holy steadfastness to bear them as I ought; for a renewed

supply of living faith, even that by which a victory is witnessed over all the temptations and buffetings of satan. And oh! withhold not the soul-sustaining and enlivening power of thy holy presence, through which the blessed hope of life and immortality are brought to light.

19th The present is with me a season of deep humiliation and abasedness of soul — many are the trials and conflicts which I have to pass through, some of them in wisdom reaching the tenderest chord, for the gracious purpose of proving my love and trying my loyalty to the King of heaven. But herein is my consolation, that I know there is a power which is able to preserve me through all, to the praise of His own everlasting name. I am sometimes enabled to look unto Him, and through his adorable mercy to repose my whole trust and confidence in Him who is God over all blessed forever more.

Fifth mo. 30th. Thou knowest, my dear Redeemer, my only helper, why I am thus visited; thou knowest altogether my wayward heart, for thou searchest me every morning, and triest me every evening — and thou knowest that much purging is necessary to prepare me for thy service, and for thy pure and holy kingdom. O, enable me to endure all thy dispensations in faith and holy patience, and suffer me not to grow weary, neither to faint in watching and prayer, in fasting and supplication; but with holy and renewed confidence may I wait thine own time, without one effort to escape the prison house, until thou art pleased to arise in power and beauty, and say to my poor imprisoned soul, "Arise, go forth and shew thyself." For of a truth I have long since known and experienced, that unavailing are all human efforts, they do but protract

our stay in the land of jeopardy and of drought — for it is "not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the Lord."

O then gracious God, condescend to be near in this season of deep inward trial and outward suffering and by the precious influence of thy divine love, comfort and console me with sweet refreshment, whereby I may be strengthened and encouraged still to trust in thy great power, and to hold fast unto the end that which thou hast committed to my charge. And being thus renewedly helped as from thy holy sanctuary, may I with cheerfulness abide the season of probation appointed by thee, for thoroughly purifying my heart from every defilement both of flesh and spirit, that I may become truly sanctified, washed and made clean, by the precious blood of Jesus Christ my dear Saviour, willingly bearing about in my body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made more and more manifest in me; and more abundantly evincing that I am laboring and travailing to know, through divine grace, an overcoming of the wicked one with all his works, by the power of the Son of God, who was manifested to destroy the works of the devil.

Sixth mo. 12th. This morning my dear husband left home to attend the approaching Yearly Meeting. My health not being sufficient to undertake the journey, I am left behind.

O the stripping and winnowing seasons that have of late fallen to my lot! Grant, O Lord, that they may tend to deepen me in the root, through the effective working of living faith (which is thy gift,) that so purity of heart and uprightness of intention may more increase and abound in me. O holy One, thou knowest this has long been the desire of my

soul and the travail of my spirit, to know in deed and in truth, purity of heart, purity of intention, unmixed with the least tincture of self; for self must be slain before the life of the Lamb can appear and shine forth in the light and beauty of the blessed Truth.

O, it is with clean hands and a pure heart that I (who am the least of all thy family) desire to serve thee, my dear Saviour, all the few remaining days of my pilgrimage here, and that I may when done with time, be admitted into a mansion of rest and peace with thee in thy holy and everlasting kingdom.

15th. Being through weakness and infirmity of body, pretty much confined, and mostly alone for a few days, I feel very desirous that it may be a season of gathering strength in the root; and I think it will be, as I endeavor rightly to abide the operation of the Lord's refining power upon me. But without faith it is impossible to please God. Well, I trust I still have a small grain, although often reduced to a very low ebb.

19th. O precious repast! One drop, O Lord, from thine inexhaustible fountain — one crumb from thy bountiful board — how it refreshes and strengthens the poor and needy soul, that is panting after thee even as the hart panteth after the water brooks! O surely thou art good to those that love thee, and to the upright in heart. Thou wilt satisfy the hungry soul, and replenish the weary soul, that trusteth in thee. Then why art thou cast down, oh my soul? and why art thou disquieted within me? Hope thou in God; for I shall yet praise him, who is the health of my countenance, and my God.

Great indeed is the privilege of turning unto God the alone centre and source of all true consolation, and of all good, in low and trying seasons, and in all our tribulations, for in the presence of our blessed Lord is peace, true solid peace, which is not, nay, cannot be found in any thing which appertains to this world.

Eighth mo. 25th. Conscious of much weakness and frailty, O Lord, I humbly pray thou wouldst mercifully condescend to be my strength, supporting and sustaining my often fainting spirit through all the future trials, which thou in thy wisdom may permit to overtake me in this my earthly pilgrimage. Unto thee I look for help; thou art my only refuge, my hope, and my defence. Thou knowest all my conflicts, and art acquainted with all my ways, and my thoughts and the intents of my heart. Unto thee do I ever hope to stand open, for I love to feel thy heart-searching power pervading the inmost recess of my soul, that every hidden evil may be searched out and by thy power expelled. O thou most holy One, preserve me by thine almighty arm from the snares of the enemy; O save me, for thou art my Saviour; and of thy mercy grant strength and right ability, through Jesus Christ our Lord, to do all which thou requirest at my hands, in an acceptable manner.

Ninth mo. 23d. For several months past my trials have been great and deeply exercising. Ah! they still remain to be so, insomuch that at seasons I hardly know which way to turn. I have been very feeble through the summer, although generally able to attend our own meeting. I doubt not the designs of infinite wisdom are merciful, that He thus metes out these dispensations to his servants and

handmaidens to refine and purify them, that in His own time they may come forth as gold seven times tried. That these afflictive seasons may not be lost on me, is the fervent breathing of my soul. I have been more unwell of late, so that I have not been at meeting for three meeting days past. O, it is a privilege which I much prize, to assemble with my beloved friends for the solemn purpose of worshipping Almighty God; and I may safely say that the farther I advance in life the more precious this favor appears, although I often have to sit under an humbling sense of leanness and barrenness of spirit, which has been much my lot of late. Yet to the praise of Him who hath all power both in Heaven and on earth, who best knoweth when and how to dispense His seasons of summer and winter, of seed time and harvest, I may acknowledge that at some few times even of late He hath been mercifully pleased to unveil his countenance, and shine forth with renewed beauty, yea to open the way, going before and removing every obstacle, condescending to be mouth and wisdom, tongue and utterance; thereby confirming a belief that He hath not forgotten nor forsaken me, but enables me to rejoice in Him my alone Helper.

Notwithstanding, I think I may say I have experienced deep baptisms, have been in deaths oft, in fastings and watchings, as well as at seasons favored to taste the joys of God's salvation, in being made a free partaker of the rich consolations of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, our once suffering but now risen Lord, I yet feel myself but as a poor stripling; and am often jealous over my own heart, lest for want of a close watch and attention to the ingrafted word of divine life in the soul, which alone is able to preserve us pure and spotless before the presence of Almighty goodness, (let the irreligious say what

they can, I believe they will one day realize this solemn truth,) any thing might be overlooked or receive admission, which on a close investigation should be found offensive to infinite purity. Therefore I reverently pray thee, O Lord God omnipotent, quicken me to more diligence and greater watchfulness against all that has not its root in thee, and to a true obedience unto all thy holy requisitions; so O Lord shall thy great and worthy name be praised, honored, and adored, through time and in eternity by a little one.

26th. I continue so feeble that I am not able to go out, and feel rather lonely; however, I trust not wholly destitute of patience, although often inwardly engaged for an increase both of faith and patience, that I may never let go my hold on Him who I believe has ever been mindful of me, and still remains to be, notwithstanding He permits me to be thus closely tried and proved.

O gracious and holy Father, I pray thee, turn thy holy hand again and again upon me, and wholly purge away all that remains in me which is obnoxious in thy sight; surely it is not for nought that such deep baptisms, such bitter conflicts attend me, both within and without. Thou knowest, O searcher of all hearts, that I greatly desire to be cleansed, to be redeemed from all iniquity; and that this may be accomplished, enable me to continue in prayer and supplication unto thee, through the assistance of thine own most holy Spirit, even to pray without ceasing, and in every thing to give thee thanks.

Yesterday my dear husband left for Boston, with our son Samuel, now about fourteen years of age, in order to take him to the eye infirmary, he being almost deprived of his sight, which has been grad-

ually diminishing ever since the injury he met with eight years ago.

Tenth mo. 9th. After an absence of four days my dear husband and son returned from Boston. Nothing was done there for Samuel's help, but he is now placed under the care of a physician for medical treatment, which is deemed necessary previous to a surgical operation on the eye — so that we still have some hope, though it seems to be deferred. I believe that He who is the same yesterday, to-day and forever, is still able to restore sight to the blind, and that He will mercifully condescend to bless the means used therefor, if consistent with His holy will and wisdom; if not, I humbly trust He will graciously sustain our minds under this and every other affliction, enabling us to say in truth and sincerity, thy will O Lord, and not ours, be done. The dear lad appears to bear his privations remarkably, and sometimes speaks of his case in a manner truly consoling under such a dispensation. May the God of Jacob be his God, watch over and defend him from all the temptations of an unwearied enemy, preserving him in innocence and virtue to the end of his days, is my fervent prayer.

For a week past I have been quite sick, able to sit up but little, having been again attacked with a pleuritic affection. Thus the Almighty is pleased in his unfathomable wisdom to deal with me; to try and to prove. Thus is He instructing and teaching me lessons, profitable lessons, which perhaps I never could have learned but in this school of affliction. But O! to the praise of His everlasting goodness I write, He hath at this season dealt very tenderly and gently with me, soon removing the extremity of my pain, supporting with his power

and blessed presence my fainting soul, bowing, melting and tendering all within me capable of feeling, into resignation and submission to his holy will; for which favor I desire in humble thankfulness to adore His great and worthy Name.

16th. I have not yet been out though my health is a little improved. My desire is, that I may dwell continually under a watchful care and exercise of soul, lest the enemy should get any advantage over me. O my Father and my God, be thou always near to preserve my soul from evil, and strengthen me to endure all things for thy blessed name's sake.

22d. I have been out to meeting to-day, and was also at our last First-day meeting; but oh! the depth of poverty which I there experienced! such strippedness and nakedness as was my lot whilst sitting with my beloved friends! I know not why it is so; I do not feel altogether so void of all good when at home in religious retirement, but am sometimes favored with a little of the Master's presence. Thou knowest, dearest Father, for what end I am thus tried in our meetings, and no doubt when thy blessed purposes are effected, will again raise me as from the dead therein. As there is a patient abiding this state of suffering and leanness, I humbly trust and believe that Thou who remainest to be the resurrection and the life, will yet appear to the reviving and comforting of my poor soul; Thou who art the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, who was slain and art alive; therefore in thee will I hope, my strength and my Redeemer.

Eleventh mo. 29th. I am prevented from at-

tending meeting to-day by bodily indisposition, but have been able to get to all our meetings which have occurred for five or six weeks past, (a precious privilege ;) also, accompanied by my dear husband, have visited thirty-seven families more in our Monthly Meeting, and there are still remaining fifteen or sixteen others which I may yet see at some future time. I have likewise attended the meetings in Smith's and Allen's Necks, to good satisfaction, feeling my poor mind much relieved thereby. And I may with thankfulness acknowledge, that through these recent exercises my divine Master was graciously pleased to be near for my help and strength. O my soul, trust always in him, for He is a gracious God, kind and compassionate unto all that love and fear Him.

I may here remark, that notwithstanding the precious life is low amongst us as a people, and in some places scarcely any right sense of feeling in religious concern and exercise is apparent, my heart rejoiced and was made glad in meeting with some, who appeared to be under a good degree of right engagement for their own soul's salvation ; and such are hopeful. From these we may expect usefulness in the Lord's plantation, if they are but willing to endure the season of preparation, humbly abiding the purifying power of the Holy Ghost. O Lord, grant that this may be their happy experience. But if such as have been trained up in our society and have enjoyed its privileges, turn from and despise the pure principle of divine light and grace, letting fall the testimonies of the blessed Truth, I believe others will be called as from the highways, to support and maintain them according to the ancient practice of our worthy forefathers in religious profession ; for I cannot suppose that it is the design of Almighty Providence, that

this people should fall and become extinct, whom He hath so signally gathered, and hitherto preserved through many storms and vicissitudes, (no doubt) for the blessed purpose of showing forth his own praise.

Twelth mo. 2d. My dear husband has gone to New-Bedford to attend our Quarterly Meeting. I am yet too unwell to go out. This is now the fourth Quarter that I have been unable to attend, for want of health. But I feel that it is the ordering of an allwise Providence, and I will not murmur. He certainly knoweth what is best for me, and I desire with true submission to resign myself to all His fatherly corrections.

3d. Encompassed with many infirmities, trials and besetments, my cry is, Lord be pleased to look down upon me, and help me according to thy great mercy. O grant me preservation from all the snares of the enemy, and uphold me by thy free spirit.

8th. O holy Helper, be not far from me in this season of weakness; condescend to be my strength. Sustain my often tried mind and suffer not the raging billows to overwhelm me, but in thy wonted and matchless loving kindness, stay my soul in humble confidence on thee, the immutable unchangable Rock, the sure and never failing refuge of the righteous; even so O Lord, amen.

19th. Truly I can say with David I have been afflicted from my youth up, notwithstanding I may with reverent gratitude acknowledge that my whole life has been crowned with loving kindness and tender mercies; indeed numberless blessings and countless favors both spirtual and temporal, have

I been made a partaker of, for all of which I desire thankfully to commemorate the mercy of God through Jesus Christ our holy Redeemer. And now in view of my weak state as it respects my poor body, the language of the apostle is revived namely — "The time is short." Yea, it oft-times appears to me that it must indeed be short with me; my poor worn emaciated and shattered tabernacle loudly proclaims, thy time is short. But O what shall I render to my God for all His benefits? He has not forsaken me, notwithstanding my backslidings and my short comings, He has not left me, but has all along, blessed be His holy name, followed me with his grace and good spirit; else where should I have been? — He hath brought me low, and again and again hath He raised me up, — He hath brought me through many sore distresses and trying conflicts, again and again speaking peace to my soul. O, surely it is of the Lord's mercy that we are not consumed, because His compassions fail not, they are renewed every morning. Great is thy faithfulness O Lord, thy mercy is unfathomable, and thy judgments past finding out. Then O my soul, submit and resign thy all into His holy hand, ascribing honor, glory and praise unto His great name.

20th I am sometimes led under severe trials to query, why is it thus with me? But I always feel something like a check in this, assuredly believing that He who permits these afflictive dispensations does indeed what is best, and this is enough for me to know, although it sometimes seems as if I was made a wonder and a spectacle to others, being as it were daily appointed unto death, even that death whereby the natural man is slain, and the creaturely will subjected to the

power of the cross of Christ. Oh Lord, carry on thy work of renovation in my heart, spare not until I am perfectly moulded into thine own image; O wash me from mine iniquity and cleanse me from my sin; and O most gracious and holy One, be pleased to fit and prepare me for a mansion of rest and peace in thy blessed Kingdom before I go hence, and am seen no more.

Fourth mo. 17th, 1836. Quite a length of time has now elapsed since I have written much concerning my trials and exercises, having hardly had sufficient strength, and little or no ability therefor for four months past. I may now however remark, that they have not been at all lessened, but I have sometimes thought rather augmented, having in the course of the winter had I think to pass through some of the most painful baptisms I have ever experienced. Oh the grevious besetments, buffetings and strong temptations of an unwearied adversary! Truly at seasons I have been almost ready to fear I should never attain to the promised inheritance, but fall a prey in the wilderness, ready to suppose in a moment of weakness, that it was in judgment and displeasure, that the hand of the Almighty was thus turned upon, and seemingly against me, because of my transgressions and my sins; having had to review my past life, even from my youth, and to call to remembrance my early sins — and although I could see that great mercy had all along been extended toward me, and that nothing short of Omnipotence could have protected and preserved me from any snares and dangers to which I was exposed, yet was I undeserving and unworthy of the least of these His great mercies, and that now He whom I had desired and loved above all things else, had seen meet to withdraw and leave

me in a barren and dry state; and O I feared He would never more return. It seemed at times as though I was now losing all faith, hope and confidence in divine support, having during this season of trial, had to pass through much bodily suffering, whereby I was sometimes brought very low. Yet after all and through all, to the praise of His eternal power, who is the unfailing Keeper and sure refuge of the poor and needy, the distressed and afflicted, the tossed and not comforted, I never did quite lose my hold on Him; and there were intervals in which a divine ray, an unclouded beam of heavenly light would unexpectedly break through the dark clouds upon my mind, and inspire a hope that perhaps the bitterness of death was past. Once when I was pondering and inquiring in my heart why it was thus with me, I took the bible in my hand and opened to that passage where the apostle thus exhorts the brethren, "For consider Him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds. Ye have not resisted unto blood, striving against sin." O did I enough consider the vastness of the sufferings of my dear Redeemer, who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth, it would I believe tend to soften and mitigate mine—and further, "Ye have forgotten the exhortation, which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him; for whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth." This was a consolation to my poor mind and I felt renewed strength to supplicate for a fresh supply of living faith, and for patience to do or to suffer, whatever might be required of me, or permitted to come upon me; that these momentary afflictions might yield to me

the peaceable fruits of righteousness in the end. And I do believe that this was in mercy vouchsafed to me from the good hand of my heavenly Father, whose tender compassions fail not, but are often, yea, very often renewed unto us. My soul hath abundant cause still to bless the Lord, and to speak well of His excellent name, inasmuch as He still manifests himself to be graciously near, to comfort my poor soul in seasons of distress, and hath so bountifully provided for me as to the outward, who am, as I often feel myself to be, but as the least and most unworthy of all his flock and family.

O Lord, preserve me from the power of the enemy; oh keep me in the hour of trial, and grant thy unspeakable gift of divine grace, through which I may be enabled to keep the word of thy patience, in humble resignation to thy holy will, now, henceforth and forevermore, Amen.

23d. I feel I trust an humble hope that though afflicted and tried, I am not wholly forsaken of the everlasting Shepherd who still careth for his flock, and who will preserve his lambs from the teeth of the devouring wolf.

27th. I am extremely weak and feeble as to the outward, and cannot look forward with much hope or prospect of more health or strength, but humbly trust that for the increase of spiritual strength, I may be mercifully helped availingly to supplicate; and for the necessary qualification hereto may I be enabled to wait at my divine Master's feet, in awful silence and true submission to his holy will; for it is alone his only begotten that can truly and acceptably call him Father. How needful, then, for us to wait upon him, to

feel the quickening influences of his Holy Spirit to raise in our hearts living prayers and intercessions for preservation and protection from all that would destroy our everlasting happiness; for of ourselves we cannot offer one word that will reach the sacred ear of Him who hath said, "Without me ye can do nothing."

Fifth mo. 22d. I have not yet been out to meeting, but a hope is revived that I shall ere long again be permitted to assemble with my dear friends, for the solemn duty of publicly worshiping Almighty God, our great and merciful creator and preserver. And O, that I may be prepared, if thus favored, with grateful sensations and heartfelt thankfulness, acceptably to bow and worship before Him who graciously regards the poor in spirit and saveth such as are of a contrite heart. I have often thought of our poor little meeting, as well as many others since my late confinement, and I greatly long that Truth and Friends may prosper, on the ancient foundation and righteous principle of faith and good works; for faith without works is dead: hereby we prove our faith, even by our obedience to the law of Christ Jesus, our divine and holy lawgiver, who said, "My sheep hear my voice and I know them, and they follow me: and a stranger they will not follow." These follow their holy Guide, who leadeth into all truth; they obey the holy commands of their divine Master, and thus prove, by their obedience, their faith in his almighty power to redeem and to save them out of all trouble and from all adversity.

Such, I believe, was the faith and the doctrine of our worthy predecessors, most clearly opened and revealed to them by the revelation of God, through his dear Son, Christ Jesus our Lord, who

told his servants, when about to withdraw his visible appearance from them, that he would not leave them comfortless, but would come unto them; that he would pray the Father, who should give them another comforter, even the Spirit of Truth, who should guide them into all truth, and this promise is surely fulfilled. He hath come, a Comforter to the humble and obedient servant of Jesus Christ — a Commander whom all ought to obey — a Leader to the meek and sincere child who is inquiring after truth and true happiness — a Light to enlighten the dark and unregenerate heart of fallen man, causing him to see that life and death, good and evil, are set before him; also to show the awful consequence of rebelling against this divine light; and a reprover for sin and evil. O, then, may we diligently give heed to the wonderful Counsellor, the mighty God, the everlasting Father, and the Prince of Peace, who is an eternal shield of sure defence unto all who receive and believe in Him, who embrace, in all its parts, the whole covenant of the gospel of our blessed Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, which covenant was sealed with his most precious blood.

29th, (First-day.) Still laboring under much weakness of body, which, in a greater or less degree, tends to weigh down the soul, my inward cry is, Lord help me, and strengthen me to bear my sufferings as I ought. Enable me patiently to endure tribulation, and graciously grant, through the all-sufficiency of thy grace, that I may rejoice in the blessed hope of immortality and eternal life, at the solemn close, when the few remaining sands of life are run. O, Father, and fountain of all our sure mercies, condescend to look down upon me, a poor unworthy worm, even from thy high and

holy habitation, that my drooping spirit may be revived. O, strengthen with might the inner man, with the consolations of thy life-giving presence. O Lord, my rock, and my alone defence, thou art my hope and only hiding place; be not far from me in my distress, but, if consistent with thy wisdom, reach forth the arm of thy power and deliver me from the snares of my most potent foe. O Sovereign Love, thou dost indeed best know what is best for me; and to thy all-wise direction and holy guidance I leave myself, beseeching that thou wouldst be pleased to direct my heart into the patient waiting for the coming of the kingdom of thy dear Son Christ Jesus, our blessed and holy Redeemer. Be with thy people, O Lord, everywhere that are assembled at this time, to worship thee with hearts duly prepared and purified through submission to the baptizing power of the Holy Ghost, sent down from heaven. Spread over all such the canopy of thy love, and enable them reverently to worship and adore thy great and ever worthy name, in the beauty of holiness, ascribing unto thee, with the dear Son of thy love, all power, majesty, and dominion, now and forever more. Amen.

Sixth mo. 5th. O Lord, be pleased to direct and lead me aright; grant me clearly to see when, and where, and how to move in all things, that thy all-wise designs may not be frustrated. Thou knowest all things, thou knowest every motive of my heart, and that I desire to serve thee, in thy own way, more than any other thing.

Sometimes I think my sufferings would be but light, could I but know they were for righteousness sake: O, then, the cross would be easy and pleasant. It has been often very trying to me to be so

much absent from our little meeting; for I do esteem the attendance of meetings one of the highest privileges which we are capable of enjoying, and I could wish that it might be more duly appreciated by some under our name than I fear it is. I long to meet with my dear friends, in order to wait upon the Lord, the great Creator and upholder of all things, in the midst of the congregations of the people. Those that are uprightly engaged to wait upon Him, in spirit and in truth, shall renew their strength to run with patience the race set before them. Amid surrounding trials and difficulties, when at times it may seem as though all would be swept away with the torrent and the mighty surging of the waves, we feel the need of divine aid and support. Ah! were it not, O Lord, for thine eternal arm of divine and matchless strength, I could never have survived the dashing and foaming of the boisterous ocean of life unto this day; but thou didst make it bare again and again, to rescue and to save from the power of all that rose against me — everlastingly blessed be thy great and ever adorable name.

12th. My soul hath been deeply humbled under a sense of my great weakness and entire dependence, having no might nor ability for any good thing. My cries have been raised to the great Fountain and unfailing source of all good, for help and support — for a renewed supply of living faith and hope, even that which alone can enable the soul to draw nigh unto Him, who is a God near at hand unto all who rightly trust in and lean upon him — who hath said, that for the oppression of the poor, for the sighing of the needy, he would arise. I am poor and needy; help thou me, O Lord, my high tower, my only hope of salvation,

for in thee alone do I trust. O my God, for thee will I wait, for thou art worthy; worthy to be waited for — to be worshiped, reverenced, loved, and obeyed, even now, henceforth, and forever more.

My dear husband is gone to attend the Yearly Meeting. My health is such as not to admit of my attending ours at home. May the great Shepherd be near to preside over the annual assembly; may he dwell in the hearts of those who are engaged to serve him — who minister at his holy altar. May these be clean handed and pure hearted, that an holy offering may be made unto Him who seeth in secret — yea, verily, he seeth the inmost recesses of all hearts, and will sooner or later reward accordingly. O, that all may be more and more concerned to give diligent heed to this solemn injunction, "Be ye clean that bear the vessels of the Lord."

O, what pity it is that riches, and the wisdom and knowledge of this world, should have any influence in our religious society; for where this is in any degree the case, it is very observable that its effects are to deaden and darken, to benumb and stupify. Since it is so, that we poor frail, finite creatures, cannot bear these things without being puffed up thereby, unless the heart is seasoned with divine grace; and, through the repeated descendings and purifying operations of the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven, is cleansed and transformed by the renewings thereof, I have sometimes thought that this acquired knowledge, added to worldly greatness, which often begets self-importance, has been too much leaned upon for our defence, even in religious concerns, forgetting our dependent state, and that for every good act, our sufficiency, our qualification is of God, the

giver of all good, and who hath in his holy wisdom, chosen the poor of this world, and the weak, yea, the base and contemptible, in the eyes of the worldly wise, (yet rich in faith and good works,) in order to confound the wise and bring to naught the understanding of the prudent. But I comfortably believe that there are many up and down amongst us who are earnestly engaged to maintain the watch, and to cry in secret for the preservation of themselves, and also for the whole family; and I am persuaded that these will experience the protecting care of our heavenly Father. But are not riches and worldly honor too eagerly pursued? Do they not tend to the wounding of the Lord's precious cause? Let us all be willing candidly to examine.

16th. My soul longeth, yea, even fainteth for the courts of the Lord: my heart and my flesh crieth out for the living God. Yea, the sparrow hath found a house, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young; and shall not I again be fed and nourished, again be succored and replenished from thy bountiful board, O holy Father? Shall I not yet be satisfied with thy favor, and with the blessing of the Most High? If there be any thing in me which obstructs thy glorious appearance, I beseech thee, for thy great Name's sake, and for thy dear Son's sake, show it unto me. Reduce me again and again, dip me and strip me, plunge me into thine own baptism, that so no dreg, no unclean thing may remain, and I may be prepared, at thy return, to enter with thee into that sweet union and communion, which thou deignest to hold with the pure and sanctified soul. O, strengthen me to endure all things, to hold on, and to hold out unto the end: come what may come, prepare and

qualify me to adopt the language of one of thy deeply tried servants formerly, "Though thou slay me, yet will I trust in thee."

I remain very much unwell; have been able to attend but one meeting for nearly seven months past. But it is the Lord's will; O may his blessed will be done concerning me, for He hath testified by his servant, that all things work together for good to them that love God. O, may my soul love thee, my gracious Redeemer, in all thy dispensations, and bless thee for the administration of thy rod, as well as for the putting forth of thy staff.

18th. Thou art good O Lord, thou art merciful and gracious to the soul that seeketh thee, therefore will I bless and praise thy holy name, forever and ever.

O, keep the feet of thy people; let them not slip from the true foundation. Thou knowest, O Lord, the snares which the crafty enemy hath laid to overthrow, to undermine the true Church — but may she cleave to thee, her holy Head; leaning and reposing in humble confidence on thy all-powerful Arm, for help and deliverance out of all the mischiefs of Satan, that she may be kept chaste and clean, without spot or wrinkle in thy divine sight.

Seventh mo. 6th. My dear husband absent at our Quarterly Meeting. I am still an invalid at home, endeavoring after quiet resignation to my divine Master's will; and may gratefully acknowledge that my privations have been made easier than I could have thought. The love and kindness of our Heavenly Father is indeed great towards his little dependent ones! Great is his condescension in stooping to soothe and to comfort the weary and

afflicted, giving them at seasons to behold the light and beauty of his glorious presence, thereby dispelling the clouds of darkness, and mists of gloom which at times so hang over and depress the poor traveller on his way to the mansions of eternal bliss.

7th. Many temptations, many snares there are, to which the children of men are liable; but what mercy it is when we are favored to see the snares and baits of our dire foe. O, if we keep to that which shews us the evil, I believe we shall witness preservation from yielding thereto, or in any degree indulging therein. Turning unto this holy principle of light and life in the soul, which is all-sufficient, salvation will be our wall of defence, and our gates eternal praise unto Him who is our shield and protection from all harm. O Lord, thou art my guard and my keeper, my light and my strength. O, thou most mighty One, suffer not the raging billows to overwhelm me.

Eighth mo. 12th. Keep me, O Shepherd of Israel, and preserve me from every snare and delusion of the evil one. Let thy holy fear encompass my dwelling, and be as an impregnable defence against every invasion of wrong, that through thy merciful aid, my heart may be kept clean, and prepared to do thy blessed will. Forget me not, O God of compassion, but condescend to be with me in every strait and trial, for thou art my hope and my trust forever.

Ninth mo. 28th. I have recently been to Rhode Island, on a visit to my beloved relatives and friends, where I spent about ten days, much to my satisfaction — attended meeting on first and fourth days to the relief of my own mind — had an opportun-

ity to see, and be in company a little with some of my much loved friends, which was very pleasant, and in a particular manner with dear Benjamin Freeborn, who seems quietly waiting the solemn change. He appeared bright in his intellect, and lively in conversation. I thought his sun would indeed set with brightness. He is one I have long held in high estimation, often remembering his kind and fatherly care over me when a poor strippling in religious experience, which was mingled with christian prudence, rendering him dear to me. I was prevented from making many visits through feebleness of body, yet was thankful to be able to sit with Friends in their meetings. I had to pass through some close conflicts and trying exercises previous to this visit; but my gracious Helper was entreated — I felt a liberty to go, and I trust, an evidence that I should return to my beloved family. How great is the goodness and mercy of our heavenly Father, unto all who trust in Him alone for deliverance! O, gracious and holy One, look down upon me, and fill my heart with humble gratitude and praise to thee, the blessed Author of all good; keep me humble and watchful in all my future steppings through this vale of sorrow, that I may be prepared when done with time, to be united with the just of all generations in singing the song of the ransomed and redeemed, in thy holy presence, and in the presence of thy dear Son, Christ Jesus, our Lord.

First mo. 8th, 1837. It is now six or seven weeks since I was able to be at meeting, yet am, through the continued mercy and kindness of our heavenly Father, so as to be a little about my room, and at times pretty comfortable, though almost constantly laboring under great weakness

and debility. But I will not complain ; I dare not murmur, when I contrast my situation with many, very many, who are laboring under great afflictions, and who are destitute of almost every comfort and accommodation which might, in some degree, alleviate their distress, the which I am greatly favored with. Nay, instead of complaining, may I thankfully adore and bless thy holy name and power, O Lord, for all thy mercies and for all thy benefits.

For three months previous to this confinement, I was favored with such a degree of health as to enable me to attend nearly all our meetings in course, and at times therein my thirsty soul was much refreshed and comforted by the good presence of my blessed Master, who, in the riches of his mercy, condescended to be near, to own, to bless, and to break a little of his own heavenly bread amongst us. O, I trust He will continue to be near, to watch over and defend his little flock and family, wherever scattered, even such as love him and keep his commandments — who know his voice, and turn not aside after strange voices; yea, these he will hold as in the hollow of his holy hand, and none shall be able to pluck them from thence. But alas! alas! for those who have known the truth, the blessed truth as it is in Jesus — who have tasted of the good word of life, and the power of the world to come, should they fall away, and turn again to the vanities and indulgences of a carnal mind! What will their portion be in the end!

21st. What is my state and condition ; my spiritual condition? O, thou Searcher of all hearts, do I advance toward, or recede from thy holy kingdom? I sometimes fear the latter may be my case. O, open and enlighten my inward eye to see

myself as I am seen of thee; strengthen me, O Father, to maintain the warfare, to keep up the watch between flesh and spirit; through all trials and every besetment be thou graciously near to succor and to preserve me out of the snares of the enemy. O, most merciful Father, spare not to purge and purify my soul, even as with hyssop, that I may be made thoroughly clean through the effectual working of thine holy power, and may yet more fully know an overcoming of all my soul's enemies: even so prayeth my heart. Amen.

24th. Renew, O Lord, my strength in thee, according to thy will. O, visit my soul with thy heavenly love, thy melting, tendering power and goodness, that all within me may bow in humble prostration before thee, whose only right it is to rule in my heart. O, holy One, forsake me not, but create in me a clean heart, and renew a right spirit within me; enable me to keep near to thee, trusting in thy all-sufficient strength, O thou Preserver of men. I am deeply sensible of my weakness, knowing of a truth, that without thee I shall fail of reaching the desired haven of rest; therefore, do I earnestly crave from thee a little crumb from day to day, of that bread which gives strength and encouragement to press forward through all in the way everlasting.

Second mo. 19th. For near a week past, I have been much afflicted with pain, which has made my nights tedious, and my days distressing; but, through the continued goodness and mercy of my gracious Preserver, I am much relieved therefrom. May I duly appreciate and gratefully acknowledge this and every other mercy received.

My family all gone to meeting — I only am

left. O Lord, remember and look down with pity upon us; enable us to draw inwardly near unto thee, and acceptably to worship and bow before thine holy presence. Gracious Father, regard with compassion my dear children, and suffer them not to depart from thy holy fear, neither to stray from thy divine protection, the alone fold of rest and peace. O visit and revisit their youthful minds — quicken and inspire their hearts with love to thee and to thy righteous cause of truth.

Fourth mo. 6th. To-day all my dear family, husband and children, absent — gone to attend our Quarterly Meeting held at New Bedford. I am still unable to go out. O these are privations which are sensibly felt by one whose heart is deeply interested for the welfare of our Society, and in a peculiar manner at such a crisis as this, when hosts of enemies are encamped around, yea, lay in ambush on every side; and many there be who have fallen both on the right hand and on the left. Yet I do comfortably believe that there is still preserved a precious remnant, who have not bowed unto Baal, nor kissed his image, yea, and will be preserved as they keep near to Israel's Shepherd, and are obedient unto his Truth, willing patiently to suffer for his great name and testimony's sake. For I believe the Lord will have a people; and his true church and people always were an afflicted company of sojourners, not looking for, or seeking to find an undisturbed rest here below, but pressing forward through many tribulations after that holy rest and quiet, which is most assuredly prepared for the people of God. And in a solemn view hereof, I desire reverently and thankfully to acquiesce in His holy will concerning me. For surely I may say, that great and marvellous

are His works, just and true are all his ways — and he will keep the feet of those who fear and serve Him in truth and uprighteousness of heart, although their lot may be in solitude, secluded from the visible communion and fellowship of the church. And even here at seasons, intercessions have been made by hidden, yet livingly baptized members, which I have no doubt have reached the sacred ear of our Father which is in heaven, that he would pity his people, and spare them from reproach, and not give his heritage to the heathen; for why should they rule and have dominion over this highly favored family.

O! that there might be no more just occasion given, thus to query—"Who gave Jacob for a spoil, and Israel to the robbers?" for will it not be replied "did not the Lord, He against whom we have sinned?" for they would not walk in his ways, neither were they obedient unto his law. Therefore, he hath poured upon him the fury of his anger, and the strength of battle; and it hath set him on fire round about, yet he knew it not; and it burned him, yet he laid it not to heart.

10th. Last night was a most distressing season to me, occasioned by extreme bodily suffering, which is often my lot. But I thought it was nevertheless, a good time, if rightly improved, for the exercise of faith and patience, in humble submission to the divine will, in order to secure the unfading crown of everlasting peace. I felt engaged to intercede for divine aid and support, that patience might have her perfect work in and upon me, wanting nothing, so that complete victory might be obtained over all the temptations and buffetings of the enemy. And blessed be God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ for His unspeakable gift of

divine grace, which is sufficient and able to save to the uttermost; and which alone giveth the victory and inspires the cheering hope of a crown of peace in the end. For surely were it not for this blessed hope, which is as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, the poor mind must sink. O, nothing short of divine support will do, naught but divine succor will avail; Jesus alone can prevent the overwhelming surge from dashing in pieces our frail barks;—O then I will cleave unto Thee, my dear Saviour, my strong Rock, and safe refuge; the beloved of souls, the Physician of value, the saints hope, the sinners Friend; for without thee, all is vanity, all unavailing; we can do nothing.

16th. Weak and feeble to-day; but surely consolation is derived from the reflection, "strong is the Lord," and that he is near to all that call upon him with a contrite heart. I will call upon him whilst I have my breath, for he only is my helper, in whom I have hope and strength. He it is that can uphold and sustain under every trial and renewed baptism, into which the poor mind may be plunged. He hath wonderfully supported and brought me through much suffering and through great tribulations, both inward and outward, for which great mercy I humbly hope ever to commemorate his goodness and unspeakable kindness, and to praise his ever worthy name.

I have very recently heard of the illness of my youngest brother, Henry Fish, at Portsmouth, R. I. I understand his case is a very doubtful one, not thought likely to recover. It seems very trying to my feelings that I am not able to visit him on this occasion; but I resign myself to the all-wise dispensations of unerring Wisdom. I am thankful I have the satisfaction to believe, that he

has been under the preparing hand of our heavenly Father, for quite a length of time, having had but very poor health for some months previous to his confinement. I thought when I last saw him that he was often led to review the past, and to endeavor to be in readiness to meet the coming event in a christian manner. It has been my fervent prayer that divine love and mercy might be near unto him in all his afflictions; that his mind may be gathered where he may see the true situation of his soul, and be strengthened and encouraged to look unto the Lord, the helper of the helpless, and receive a sure token of His mercy, and be accounted worthy to obtain an unfading crown of peace at the last.

30th. Poor and needy, empty and void. Come, O holy One, enlighten, quicken and revive my spirit in humble hope, in living faith, to wait patiently for thy return; thy gladdening smiles of everlasting love and redeeming mercy.

Fifth mo. 17th. O Lord, be pleased to look down from thy high and holy habitation, and remember me in my weak and low condition. Grant me of thy great mercy, strength to bear all my infirmities in a right manner; preserve me from murmuring or repining, because of the present afflictive dispensations; thy divine grace is sufficient for all that may come. O dearest Father, replenish my heart therewith, that I may be kept through thine own power from all evil, and be preserved out of all the temptations of the wicked one. O! may I never offend thee in any way, my blessed Lord, neither in word, thought, or deed, but enable me to set a double watch at the door of my lips.

My dear brother at Rhode-Island is fast failing, rapidly hastening toward that land whence none

return; but it is truly consoling to hear that he is calm, and very patient, and to believe, that through obedience to the effectual working of divine grace, the quick and powerful word of God in his heart, that he will be prepared and purified for a mansion of rest, in the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Well might the holy apostle exclaim, "Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift."

Sixth mo. 5th. Thou, O Lord, art my sun and my shield, my joy, and the crown of my rejoicing. Whom have I in heaven but thee, or do I desire in all the earth in comparison with thee, thou blessed and holy One, the beloved of my soul, the chiefest among ten thousand, my holy helper, my sure refuge from every storm and tempest. O thou hast again and again, to my humbling admiration made bare thine omnipotent arm for my deliverance. Thou hast brought me through seas of mental conflict and distress, yea, also through deep and inexpressible bodily sufferings, sustaining my head above the raging waves, even when it seemed as it were but an hairs' breadth between me and death. O, I often think and meditate on thy mercies, in the seasons when my cup was mixed with wormwood and gall, yea, my soul hath them still in remembrance, and is humbled within me. Thou sufferedst not the enemy to triumph over me, but didst cast the horse and his rider into the sea. O Lord, thou hast triumphed gloriously. Thou art glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders. Worthy art thou, with the Son of thy love, of all praise, might, majesty and dominion, forever and forever more, amen.

My dear brother Henry, after languishing for several months, was on the 4th of the present, re-

moved by death, to (I comfortably hope,) a haven of rest and peace; which he seemed earnestly engaged to seek after. My dear husband visited him little more than two weeks before his decease. He was fully aware of his situation, and spoke of it with meekness and calmness; seemed engaged to press after full resignation to the divine will, and said he felt a good degree of hope in divine mercy; that he had no merits of his own, and although the hope he then felt, was not so full and strong as he could desire, yet he would not part with what he did feel, for any consideration — or words to the like effect. The evening preceding his removal, he took a solemn and affectionate farewell of his near relatives and friends then present. O, that we who still remain, may be afresh incited to make speedy preparation for the solemn, awful change which awaits us all. May no time be lost, seeing we know not the day nor the hour in which the Son of man cometh.

I was not able to see or be with him in his sickness or death, having now been confined for near seven months past with sickness, but I was enabled to write him several times, which was a great satisfaction to me, and I have no doubt it was much so to him. I desire, dearest Father, humbly to acquiesce in thy holy will, and that I may be truly qualified in all things, to give thanks unto thee, for great is thy goodness, great is thy mercy, and wonderful thy love and condescension unto thy creature man.

Seventh mo. 30th. Through the continued mercy of an all gracious God, I have to-day again been permitted to attend meeting, having been absent eight months by reason of sickness. I was unexpectedly raised to bear testimony to the ever-

lasting unchangeable Truth. Surely, it is the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in my eyes! truly I can acknowledge He hath his way in the cloud and in the storm, in the wind and the thick darkness, and worketh righteously in all his ways, according to his own blessed counsel and wisdom.

Eighth mo. 2d. O! blessed Saviour, my only refuge in times of trouble, be pleased to be graciously near to support my often sinking mind, and enable me patiently to endure all the sufferings, pains and distresses, whether of body or spirit, which thou mayest permit to overtake me in this state of probation. My petition, O Lord, is, for thy supporting power and presence; then I am confident I can drink thy cup, and be baptized with thy baptism, yea, receive every of thy dispensations with all submission. O, leave me not in the time of trial and distress, but be graciously pleased to keep me in the hour of temptation.

First mo. 28th, 1838. I feel that I am a poor creature, of myself destitute of all good; but when I remember thy mercies. O Lord, my soul is animated still to hope and trust in thy incorruptible word of divine power and consolation. O preserve me thereby to the day of thy coming, wash me again and again, make me to know wisdom, and understand thy righteousness — even truth in the inward parts, and holiness of heart. Yea, strengthen me to resist patiently and manfully all evil, in the lesser as well as in greater things, that so, O righteous Father, I may be found meet to be with thee in thy holy kingdom.

I have not been able to be at meeting for nearly two months, having been confined by sickness. O dearest Father, be graciously pleased to be near

to support and sustain me through every conflict; and grant through the aboundings of thy rich mercy, thy free grace, that all these light afflictions may work together for good, even to the thorough completion of the blessed work of the redemption of my soul; is the fervent prayer of my heart.

Second mo. 4th. Manifold are the favors and benefits conferred on me by an all gracious Benefactor. I desire ever rightly to appreciate and gratefully to acknowledge them unto Him from whom all my blessings flow, whether temporal or spiritual; and O that I may be found faithful, remembering that if not, in the day of righteous inquisition, I shall be inexcusable. Even sickness and weakness, pain and distress do not exempt us from our respective duties, social and religious. I find it no shelter for me, although the enemy would feign have persuaded me to such a belief: no, no, there is a holy warfare to be maintained, a watchful, prayerful state of mind to be preserved, even against every appearance of evil, a wrestling through many sore besetments, both from within and without, to obtain the blessing; even the blessing of preservation, and to be accounted worthy to partake of the faith and patience of the saints, and finally to obtain an inheritance among all them which are sanctified, who have, through great tribulation, washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb, our holy and blessed Redeemer.

O strengthen me holy Jesus, through all my future trials and probations, patiently and resignedly to submit thereunto, committing all to thy safe keeping, body, soul and spirit, with all that is most near and dear, Amen, Amen.

Second mo. 22d. I am (said the Psalmist,) poor

and needy, yet the Lord thinketh upon me. O, how exceeding great is his care and watchful Providence over his dependent children; so great that not even an hair of their heads falleth to the ground without his notice. Assured of this consoling truth, why should I not be content and humbly resigned unto every of his all-wise dispensations, steadfastly believing that as they are meekly and patiently submitted to, however trying in their degree and nature, they will ere long, work for me a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory. I am often constrained in remembrance of his mercy to adopt this language, "Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised, for all his mercies to the children of men." Indeed when I recall to mind his love and his care, vouchsafed to me in my infant years, his tendering, melting, powerful visitations, even before I could scarcely know from whence this holy influence came, begetting in me fervent desires after righteousness, and so to live as not to be afraid to die; my soul is bowed and truly humbled within me for all his great and manifold mercies, and in that, He hath not left me altogether, notwithstanding my often backsliding and revolting from his holy covenant, but hath from time to time manifested his tender regard, his love and his pity for me an unworthy creature. There is no God like unto our God, a strong tower and safe refuge for all the righteous in the day of trouble. And now, although confined at home, afflicted with pain by night and by day, and encompassed with many weaknesses and infirmities, my portion often that of poverty and desertion, yet still is He near; his eternal arm of divine power I feel at seasons to be graciously underneath, to support and bear me up, amid all my sufferings; blessed be his holy name and power, now and forever.

Fourth mo. 1st. O Lord be pleased to lend a propitious ear, hear thou the cries of the poor and needy, and the sighing of the oppressed. O, mitigate the sufferers woe, and hasten, if consistent with thy blessed will, the happy moment when the poor captive shall be made free, when tyranny shall no more be practiced over one portion of the human family; but when all shall alike partake of the blessing of freedom which thou hast equally bequeathed to all. Thus, O Lord, would the earth again be permitted to enjoy her rest. In thine own time, O Lord, hasten thy great work.

Amidst all my complicated trials and baptisms I feel deeply sensible of the manifold obligations I am under unto thee, O Lord, for thy great and boundless mercies granted to me, who am unworthy of the least of them. Holy Father, enable me, through thy grace, to drink the cup which thou hast allotted; to kiss the rod, though it may seem to be severe. All I ask is thy supporting power and presence; but if thou shouldst see meet to withhold thy cheering smiles, then preserve me from the power of the enemy, O thou who art my hope and trust, my only shield and my defence.

Ninth mo. 23d. I again resume my pen because I feel constrained to commemorate the infinite mercy of a great and Almighty helper and preserver, who hath been with me through many close searchings, conflicts and deeply baptizing seasons, who, when patience seemed almost exhausted, and faith reduced to a very small grain, did enable me to hold fast my confidence in his eternal arm of power, and hath strengthened and sustained me under many trials, both from within and without, to stand still and see his salvation; and over and above all hath been pleased again to lift up the light of his

glorious countenance and shine upon my dwelling, making glad my heart, even in the midst of affliction. And now, O blessed Saviour, be pleased to grant me an humble and thankful heart, for all thy mercies and favors which thou hast condescended to confer upon me, and enable me in an acceptable manner to praise, exalt and magnify thy glorious and holy name and power, even so, Amen, and Amen.

Tenth mo. 1st, and First of the week. A large meeting to-day in consequence of a funeral. A portion of divine favor was extended even to me, an unworthy worm, being permitted vocally to supplicate the throne of mercy on behalf of us then present. Forget not, O my soul, the mercies thou art made a partaker of.

Eleventh mo. 27th. Many times may I not say with Israel of old, If it had not been the Lord was on my side I should long since have been swallowed up of the enemy of all truth. But the never failing arm of divine power has hitherto been round about and underneath, I verily believe (although at some pinching seasons scarcely to be felt or discerned by me) to keep me from the power of the beast, and from the dragon's wrath. O that acceptable praise and humble thanksgiving may daily ascend as from the temple of my heart, both for thy rod and thy staff, all the few remaining hours of my stay here, unto thee my blessed Saviour, Redeemer, and my only Rock of safety.

Thou knowest holy Father, all my trials, my secret conflicts both of flesh and spirit; thou knowest my poverty, my weakness, that it is great, that without thee, I can do nothing. It is unto thee, O thou almighty helper and strength-

ener that I look, and on thee alone depend; O grant of thy mercy that I may be favored so to steer my course through this fluctuating scene of conflicts and of tribulation, as that no spot nor blemish may be brought upon thy holy cause of truth and righteousness through me.

Twelfth mo. 7th. My family all gone to attend the Quarterly Meeting — I am left pretty much alone, not able to bear them company by reason of my weak state of health. Lord help me to bear my privations as becometh a professor of thy blessed Truth. O suffer me not to fall into a repining disposition, nor a murmuring thought to lodge within my breast because of these afflictions, but strengthen me patiently to endure and willingly to suffer all things for thy blessed Name's sake. Myterious indeed are the workings of thine almighty Providence. But I will be content, I will strive for resignation, so shall all things work together for my good, for thou who knowest all things knowest that I love thee as my chiefest good.

Third mo. 1839. O Lord, be graciously pleased to remember me, thy unworthy servant. For thy mercy's sake have pity upon me, and strengthen me to press onward through all the trials and temptations which may yet await or assail me in this probationary scene. O keep my heart steadfast unto thee, patiently waiting in humble faith and hope for thy redeeming power, which alone can save and redeem out of all adversity and distress. To thee alone I look, thou art my Saviour, my Rock and my Redeemer; to thee my heart is open, thou knowest all my wants, and the sincerity of my desires — Oh work in and for me of thy own

good pleasure, to do in all things according to thy holy will.

Fourth mo. 8th. I was favored to attend our Quarterly Meeting, held last week at New Bedford. It was to the comfort and refreshment of my poor and often tried mind, having renewedly to believe that however the beast and his forces may rage against the Truth, and the dragon may pour forth his floods, the Lamb and his followers will have the victory; for the name of the Lord remains to be a safe and sure refuge to all that trust in it, and much consolation is derived from the blessed assurance that the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, the Lord knoweth them that are his. His holy name and righteous testimony, I trust were exalted, and may his power be forever magnified saith my soul.

Poor in spirit, and laboring under considerable infirmity and weakness of body, my cry is, Lord help me and keep me on every side, enable me to keep a continual watch, to maintain the holy warfare, that the motions of corrupt nature, may not in any wise be suffered to overcome the pure and divine motions of thy holy spirit; but that thou, oh righteous Father, may in all things have the pre-eminence, and the dominion over my heart. Subdue I humbly pray thee, every seed of evil within me, and wholly redeem me out of the first nature, that I may more and more experience thy divine love to dwell richly in my heart. Strengthen me to endure all things with meekness and patience for thy blessed name and testimony's sake. O leave me not, but condescend to be near in all the further provings thou mayest see meet in thy unsearchable wisdom to dispense unto me thy

unworthy servant, and to thee be forever ascribed all power and praise.

Eighth mo. 28th. I am unable to attend our Monthly Meeting to-day, having been quite unwell for a week past; but I trust in good measure preserved quiet and resigned, through the condescending goodness and mercy of my heavenly Father. I have during this season of weakness and reduction of bodily strength, renewedly felt his love, mercy and kindness to be most precious to my soul, very far transcending all earthly enjoyments; so that although tried and afflicted both on the right hand and on the left, I still have the satisfaction to believe I am not forsaken nor forgotten of my God. O this precious sense and feeling of His love and tender mercy, His protecting wing over me, is more to be valued than gold, yea than the most fine gold. I have been made renewedly and fervently to crave that under all circumstances, in heights and in depths, in prosperity or adversity, in suffering or reigning, in want or in abounding, I might never lose sight of this most inestimable pearl; but that it may be my constant care and concern so to run the race which is set before me, as ere long to arrive at the mark, and receive the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus our Lord, and be made more and more a partaker of that life which is hid with Christ in God; that life and light which is unknown to the carnal and unregenerate mind, that hath not been washed and purified in the laver of regeneration, nor submitted to the baptism of the Holy Ghost and fire which alone can prepare for those celestial enjoyments of union and communion with our holy and divine Lord. O that a concern for this may be my Alpha and Omega, the first and the last of each suc-

ceeding day of my remaining life; and my fervent desire is, that it may also become more and more the concern of all my dearly beloved children and friends; yea, of all mankind. May all prize the day of the Lord's merciful visitation to their souls, and strive after durable riches, true and solid substance, because it will one day be found a truth, as one has very justly observed, "all is vanity but the love of God, and a life devoted to His will."

Ninth mo. 8th. Again prevented from attending meeting. O Lord, preserve me; enable me to keep the watch, to maintain the warfare in humble patience, faith and christian meekness, with all forbearance, gentleness and love, and with singleness of heart and eye to thy glory and everlasting praise, O thou who art our holy shield, our hope and sure defence.

23d. I was this day made sensible in some degree of thy loving kindness and tender mercy, as I sat in meeting O Lord, my Saviour. It is indeed great, and thou art greatly to be praised for thy wonderful condescension to our low estate. May I not forget thy loving kindness, thy supporting power and presence in all my trials and conflicts.

[She here mentions that her dear husband was at this time absent at New-York, with their son Samuel, for the purpose of endeavoring to obtain relief for his eyes, which were operated upon by Doct. Delafield. They remained in New-York about six weeks; and although for a time there seemed a little improvement, yet he finally became entirely deprived of sight.]

Tenth mo. 20th. How short and uncertain is

life, how transient and vain are all things which appertain to this unstable and transitory state of being. Surely, a due consideration hereof is sufficient to humble the proudest heart, to bring down the loftiest imagination to a sense of our utter insignificance, and insufficiency to avert the arrow of the destroyer, or to shun the dispensations of an all-wise Providence, and to make us see if we have eyes to see, that unto Him all must submit, either in mercy or in judgment; for He will be acknowledged Lord of lords, and Kings of kings — the sovereign ruler of heaven and earth.

During the absence of my dear husband and son, my beloved sister, Mary Fish, came to stay with me, to be my company. I had contemplated not a little satisfaction in her society, she being of an exemplary life and conversation, but in a short time our anticipated enjoyments were blighted by her removal by death. The stroke was sudden and unexpected to me, but I hope and comfortably believe she was prepared; that her peace was made with her God. I consider it a solemn warning to my soul to be also ready. Grant, O Lord, through thy adorable mercy, the fresh extendings of thy Holy Spirit, thy baptizing and purifying power, that I may be duly prepared for the solemn change which awaits me, and thus, through the power of thy redeeming love be permitted to unite with the just of all generations in forever celebrating thy holy name, with the Lamb, our Lord, who alone art worthy.

Eleventh mo. 4th. I am very feeble, feeling at times as though nature was sinking, but I endeavor to hold fast on that power in which I have believed. It is to the engrafted word in my own soul, which is alone able to keep the heart clean, that I

look for support and strength, hoping and believing that I shall experience Him to be not only my Alpha but Omega, the bright and morning star.

Twelfth mo. 25th. I have now been kept from meetings for more than two months, with but one exception, on account of feeble health, although at times pretty comfortable, yet not deemed suitable to go out, my complaint being soreness of lungs, distress across my chest, attended with cough and many other infirmities, which I hope, through the mercy and goodness of God patiently to endure. Many indeed are the tribulations, and various the conflicts, which are attendant on our pilgrimage here; but it is a consolation to know and believe that help is laid on One that is mighty to save, able to sustain and succor through all; and that He will be near so to do, as he is rightly sought after. So that although thus confined, sensibly suffering the privation of many precious seasons of meeting with my dear friends for the purpose of divine worship, as also visiting the sick, &c. yet I trust I am not altogether insensible of the many mercies and blessings, with which I am favored, beyond many of my dear fellow creatures, who doubtless are much more deserving than myself. A consideration of these things often humbles me, and bows my heart in grateful acknowledgements to the God and Father of all our mercies.

I am sensible that the present is a day that loudly calls for deep indwelling with the Seed and Word of divine life; a day in which I believe the foundations of many amongst us will be closely tried. O that we may faithfully attend to the ancient watch-word, "Every man to his tent, O Israel." God is thy tent, the only refuge of the righteous;

and all those who keep inwardly near to Him, watching unto prayer, He will keep by His own right arm of power, out of all the by-ways and crooked paths of the enemy. Those that continue faithful in the support and maintenance of that most precious faith once delivered to the saints, will be as the apple of his eye; and although many sore conflicts and deep spiritual baptisms may be theirs, on account of the sorrowful declension, both in principle and practice amongst us, yet will they be preserved, a little chosen band, (although fasting and mourning may often be their lot,) whose bread shall be given them, and whose waters shall be sure, experiencing their defence to be the munition of rocks.

[The records made by this dear Friend ceased at this place. The latest date is about three months previous to her decease, but the last paragraph is without date, and is believed to have been written at a still later period.]

Testimony of Dartmouth Monthly Meeting of Friends, concerning SARAH TUCKER, *deceased.*

Our beloved friend, Sarah Tucker, was the daughter of Preserved and Sarah Fish, and was born at Portsmouth, in Rhode Island, the 14th of 2d month, 1779. From the accounts she has left of her early life, it appears that in her young and tender years she was often visited with the inshinings of that Divine Light which is a reprover of all evil thoughts, words, and actions, and which will, when followed in faith and singleness of heart, lead its humble and devoted children into the way of truth and righteousness. And although at times she appeared, in some degree, to have indulged in the vanities of life; yet, as she arrived at more mature years of understanding, she was mercifully favored to witness an overcoming of these things, and to seek for a nearer acquaintance with her Divine Master, having experienced the truth of this saying of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, "Except a man deny himself, and take up his daily cross, he cannot be my disciple." Nevertheless, deep were her baptisms, and various were the conflicts of spirit through which she had to pass, before she could thus give up to follow the leadings of the Spirit of Truth, in the way of its requirings. About the twenty-first year of her age, she applied to, and became a member of Westport Monthly Meeting, within the limits of which she then resided, having at that time been convinced of the truth of the principles of Christianity, as held by Friends. About the twenty-fourth year of her age, she first appeared in the work of the ministry, at Portsmouth, having in the mean time returned to her native place.

The prospect of this weighty service brought with it fresh conflicts and probations; but by endeavoring to dwell near and feel after the Source and Fountain of all good, she was enabled on this, as on other occasions, to resign herself into the forming hand of the Lord, who calleth and qualifieth the members of his militant Church, to fill the various stations therein as seemeth Him meet; and without whose call and qualification vain are the brightest talents, or the most ardent desire to do good and promote the cause of truth and righteousness in the earth. In the year 1813, she was married to our beloved Friend, James Tucker, who survived her nearly four years, and has left his testimony of her worth and Christian example.

Soon after her marriage she became a member of this meeting, and continued so until her decease. She traveled considerably abroad in the work of the ministry, both in this and some of the other Yearly Meetings, to the satisfaction of Friends where she labored; as appeared by the returning certificates with which she was furnished by those whom she visited; and was also a number of times engaged in visiting the families of Friends, in her own and neighboring Monthly Meetings, to their satisfaction. She was sound in doctrine; her ministry was weighty and edifying, waiting for the openings of Divine truth, zealously engaged to arouse the lukewarm and indifferent to a deeper indwelling, and to an experimental knowledge of the regenerating power of the grace of God, which bringeth salvation, and to enforce the necessity of being born again, not of corruptible, but of the incorruptible Seed and Word of God, which liveth and abideth forever.

She was deeply concerned for the support of all our Christian testimonies, firmly believing them to

be established in the Truth, and which neither time, nor the specious pretences of those who seek for an easier way than through the furnace of trial and affliction, can ever impair or alter. Though often deeply humbled under a sense of her own unworthiness and short-comings, yet, at times, she was favored to see, and her faith strengthened in believing, that she had not followed cunningly devised fables, but the living and unchangeable truth; and that although the Lord often sees meet to prove his servants, and permits them to be tried as to an hair's-breadth, yet such trials tend to their greater purification and growth in the Truth, and prove their trust and confidence in Him.

Her health, naturally feeble, became, as she advanced in life, much impaired, being often visited with sickness; yet when of ability she was diligent in the attendance of our religious meetings, both for worship and discipline, often sitting through them in much bodily weakness; and though frequently confined to the house or her room for months together, her concern for the welfare of the Church, and her solicitude for the proper administration of its discipline, was in no degree lessened. In the spring of the year 1840 she was seized with a fever: having for some months before been in feeble health, it soon became manifest that the disease was more than her feeble frame could long endure. Her bodily sufferings, though at times great, were borne with patience and resignation; and her mind seemed stayed upon that Almighty Arm, which can alone support in the hour of need. She imparted much tender counsel and advice to her children; and, after taking an affectionate leave of her family, she quietly departed this life, the 23d of 3d month, 1840, aged sixty-one, and having been a minister about thirty-seven years.

"And they that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament, and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars, for ever and ever."

Signed on behalf and by direction of the Monthly Meeting aforesaid, held in Dartmouth, 22d of 3d month, 1848.

THOMAS K. WILBUR,
ALICE WILBUR, } *Clerks.*

Testimony of Dartmouth Monthly Meeting of Friends, concerning JAMES TUCKER, *deceased.*

The removal by death of our beloved friend, James Tucker, being sensibly felt to be a loss to this part of the militant Church, we feel engaged to furnish a short testimony concerning his exemplary life and zealous labors for the promotion of truth and righteousness amongst us, and to encourage survivors to follow him, as he endeavored to follow Christ. He was born in Dartmouth, Massachusetts, the 27th of 4th month, 1777. His parents, John and Rhoda Tucker, were members of our religious society, in good esteem, his mother being a worthy elder for many years. They manifested, by precept and example, much solicitude for their children's right advancement in the Truth, which probably contributed in some degree to form that religious character in the subject of this memoir, which was so observable in him in after life, although, when quite young, he was of a lively turn of mind. In the twentieth year of his age, he was married to Phebe, daughter of Benjamin and Sylvia Tucker, of Dartmouth, to whom he was an affectionate companion until her decease, which occurred on the 20th of 10th month, 1810.

As he advanced in years he was preserved from sitting down contented in an outward profession, and became engaged to press forward to experience fellowship and communion with "the Father and with the Son;" and continuing to grow in grace and in the saving knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, the talents with which he was intrusted became sanctified, and he was qualified to fill, with Christian propriety and meekness, such

stations as were assigned him in the Church. When about thirty years of age he was appointed to the station of an elder, which he filled to the satisfaction of Friends. He was an unslumbering watchman on the walls of our Zion, being enabled to discern the approach of the enemy, and faithful in sounding the alarm. In 1813 he was married to his second wife, Sarah Fish, daughter of Preserved and Sarah Fish, of Portsmouth, Rhode Island, with whom he lived in near affection until her decease, which took place 23d of 3d month, 1840. He manifested a deep concern for the best welfare of his children, and they were often admonished by him to choose the good part.

When of ability he was diligent in the attendance of religious meetings, and encouraged his family in the performance of the same duty. He possessed a sound discriminating mind, had a remarkably clear perception of the right administration of the discipline of the church, and appeared concerned that all things might be transacted in good order, agreeably to the mind of Truth. Benevolence, sympathy and genuine hospitality were conspicuous traits in his character. The poor were often remembered by him and their wants relieved. He evidently derived much satisfaction from having an opportunity to entertain his friends, and in an especial manner those who were laborers in the cause of Truth. Much more might with truth be said. Our object is not to eulogize the man, however worthy ; but to magnify the great and excellent name of Him, who "giveth gifts unto men." He devoted much of his time to reading the Holy Scriptures and the writings of Friends ; and has been heard to say that he had derived much benefit therefrom. He was sound in doctrine and concerned to hold fast

without wavering, that "faith which was once delivered to the saints," and for which our early Friends suffered so deeply. The introduction of unsound principles into our once united Society, occasioned him much painful exercise, especially towards the latter part of his life. He was favored to see clearly that if the advocates of the unsound views which were spread abroad, still continued to give them and their authors support, it would, as in former days in some of the other Yearly Meetings, produce a separation in the Society, if indeed there should be any remaining who felt bound to the law and the testimony. In the latter part of the 11th month, 1843, our beloved Friend took a heavy cold, which settled on his lungs, and produced much bodily suffering; yet his mind was very much stayed in the quiet, and he expressed to those about him an entire resignation to the Divine will.

He at one time with earnestness said, there is nothing but the truth that will stand, and I have been seeking it from a child; and after a short pause, a friend that was present, saying to him, "Thou hast not the least doubt but thou wilt attain that which thou hast long been seeking after?" He replied, "I can say as my wife said to me, 'I can look upon death near, without any alarm.'"

In the course of his sickness, many friends called to see him, which gave him great satisfaction. When near his close he could converse but little so as to be distinctly understood, in consequence of having a very sore throat and mouth. He gradually grew weaker until the evening of the 17th of 12th month, 1843, when he departed this life in the 67th year of his age. As he was generally respected and beloved, so his removal from works

to rewards was deeply felt by his survivors; but we have consolation in believing that our loss is his eternal gain.

Signed on behalf and by direction of Dartmouth Monthly Meeting of Friends, held at Dartmouth, 22d of 3d month, 1848.

THOMAS K. WILBUR,
ALICE WILBUR. } *Clerks.*

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